



Supporting People &  
Sustaining Communities

## DESFORD PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DROP-IN EVENTS

Friday 6th - Saturday 7th & Tuesday 10th May  
2016

### Consultation Results



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## 1) **BACKGROUND**

### **Project Brief:**

The RCC (Leicestershire & Rutland) was commissioned by Desford Parish Council to:

***Support the Desford Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group to inform and consult the community on the Desford Neighbourhood Plan via three Community Engagement Drop-in Events.***

### **Aim:**

The aim of these three events was to inform the community on Neighbourhood Planning and gain some initial feedback from residents on what they liked, disliked or would like to see improved within the parish.

### **Publicity:**

The event was publicised throughout the parish via:

- ❖ Publicity Leaflet distributed to all households (Annex 1)
- ❖ Colour posters displayed on notice boards and at key locations in each Parish (Annex 1)
- ❖ Articles in the *Graphic* and *Desford Parish News*
- ❖ Desford Parish Council website

### **For Reference:**

These Drop-in events were held at venues in both Botcheston and Desford and at different times in order to engage as many residents as possible across the designated area. For reference, the collated comments received at the Botcheston Drop-in event are shown in *italic* within this report.

## Drop-In Event Format

	ACTION	DETAILS
1 ↓	Sign In	<p>RCC Officer/Working Group Member asked attendees to complete a short registration form upon entering the event. This enabled the gathering of key demographical data including; post code, age, gender, ethnicity and employment status.</p> <p>RCC Officer/Working Group Member asked attendees to complete a contact details slip if they wanted to be kept updated with the NDP process following the event or help with the project.</p>
2 ↓	Introduction	RCC Officer/Working Group Members provided a brief introduction to the event including; background to the project, format of the event, how to have a say, and how to stay updated following the event.
3 ↓	Background to Project	Information outlining the background of the project was provided via a display board. Key points covered included: <i>What is a Neighbourhood Development Plan, why produce one, what a plan can and cannot do what the plan will look at and the designated NDP Area.</i>
4 ↓	Consultation on Key Issues	<p>A series of display boards were erected around the room, each of which focused on a different topic related to planning and development displaying some background information on the parish as listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Open Green Spaces / Environment</b></li> <li>- <b>History &amp; Heritage</b></li> <li>- <b>Flooding</b></li> <li>- <b>Renewable Energy</b></li> <li>- <b>Facilities &amp; Services</b></li> <li>- <b>Traffic &amp; Transport</b></li> <li>- <b>Housing</b></li> <li>- <b>Employment &amp; Business/Economy</b></li> </ul> <p>Having read each of the displays, attendees were asked to list the things that they liked, disliked, or wanted to see improved in relation to each topic area.</p>
5 ↓	Visual Maps	<p>Opportunity to indicate important Green Open Spaces.</p> <p>Coloured dots were provided for attendees to highlight green spaces that they valued within the parish (<b>Green</b> – 3 sites valued for visual amenity; <b>Blue</b> – 3 sites valued for recreational use).</p>
6 ↓	Additional Comments	Attendees were provided with blank slips to enable them to put forward any additional comments relevant to the project.

## 2) RESULTS

<b>Demographics</b>			
<b>Total Attendance</b>	<b>(77) Registered</b>		
	<b>(10 Botcheston) (33 Desford) ( 34 Desford)</b>		
<b>POST CODES / STREETS / AREAS REPRESENTED</b>			
LE9 9DA Kingfisher Close Desford	1	LE9 9HN Bedford Close Desford	1
LE9 9DX Forest Rise Desford	2	LE9 9HS Beaufort Close Desford	2
LE9 9EN Kirby Muxloe	1	LE9 9HT Suffolk Way Desford	2
LE9 9FF Main Street Botcheston	12	LE9 9HZ Ringwood Close Desford	2
LE9 9FH Markefield Lane Botcheston	1	LE9 9JB Cambridge Drive Desford	3
LE9 9FN Station Road Desford	1	LE9 9JD Desford Road Desford	1
LE9 9FQ Berrington CL Botcheston	1	LE9 9JF High Street Desford	4
LE9 9FW Fuller Close Desford	2	LE9 9JN Oxford Road Desford	2
LE9 9FY Bambrook Close Desford	2	LE9 9JP Main Street Desford	2
LE9 9FZ Grace Road Desford	3	LE9 9JQ Manor Road Desford	1
LE9 9GA Rowan Way Desford	1	LE9 9JR Manor Road Desford	1
LE9 9GD Church Lane Desford	3	LE9 9JU Peckleton Lane Desford	2
LE9 9GE Chapel Lane Desford	2	LE9 9JY Warwick Close Desford	1
LE9 9GF Cottage Lane Desford	3	LE9 9QB Manor Gardens Desford	2
LE9 9GL Kirkby Road Desford	1	LE9 9QH Forest View Botcheston	1
LE9 9GN Lindridge Lane Desford	2	LE9 9QZ Littlefield Lane Desford	2
LE9 9GR Main Street Desford	2	LE67 Bagworth	1
LE9 9GS Newbold Road Desford	3	LE6 OAL Newtown Linford	1
<b>Gender:</b>	Female		35
	Male		40
<b>Age Category:</b>	75 or over		17
	65 – 74		41
	55 – 64		15
	45 – 54		02
	35 – 44		02
	25 – 34		00
	18 – 24		00
	Under 18		00
<b>Employment Status:</b>	Employed (Full Time)		09
	Employed (Part Time)		07
	Full Time Education		00
	Part Time Education		00
	Unemployed		00
	Retired		60
	Housewife/Househusband		01
<b>Ethnicity:</b>	White British		76

## Open Green Spaces / Environment

<b>Question / Instruction</b>	IN RELATION TO OPEN GREEN SPACES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li> <li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU NOT LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li> <li>• <i>WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED</i></li> </ul>
<b>Total Comments</b>	<b>17</b>

### COMMENTS

#### LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH:

- *I am delighted that Peckleton Lane (SID), Kirby Road and Packard's recreation grounds are all protected by fields in trust deed of trust indicating they can never be built on.*
- *The green open spaces are the thing that makes me most enjoy living in Botcheston. We have so much countryside that benefits mental health and wellbeing as well as providing opportunities for exercise.*
- *The Desford environment is beautifully kept with wonderful seasonal planting. We have the right balance of useful amenity verses green space.*
- *Protecting wildlife is important but needs a common sense approach e.g. Newts / Bats, not as important as people's jobs / homes.*
- *Thank you for the hanging basket scheme.*

#### DISLIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH:

- *Dog fouling is a big problem in various locations*
- *Dog fouling in Botcheston park a problem*
- *Pickard Park should have dogs banned. It was left for the people of Desford, not dogs.*
- *The dog poo bins on Pickard need emptying more often.*
- *Reduce tidy signs. Cluttered and untidy.*

#### WOULD LIKE TO SEE :

- *Protect the green P.O.S on Forest Rise – not shown green on the map.*
- *There are patches of grass between some houses e.g. Norfolk Road which are just dandelion patches. Could these be made into wildlife gardens?*
- *Community garden needed near centre of Desford. When library taken over, how about the ground in front of it?*
- *Can we have flower planting areas on the two parks to encourage wildlife?*
- *Need specific areas / planting to encourage wildlife. Need to think about planting in relation to global warming.*
- *Spring bulb planting on verges?*

#### **Other:**

- *More development and housing eradicates our green space and fields which should be protected because soon we won't have any left.*

## Important Open Green Spaces

### Question / Instruction

Please use the sticky dots provided to identify on the map any important green spaces that you value in the Parish

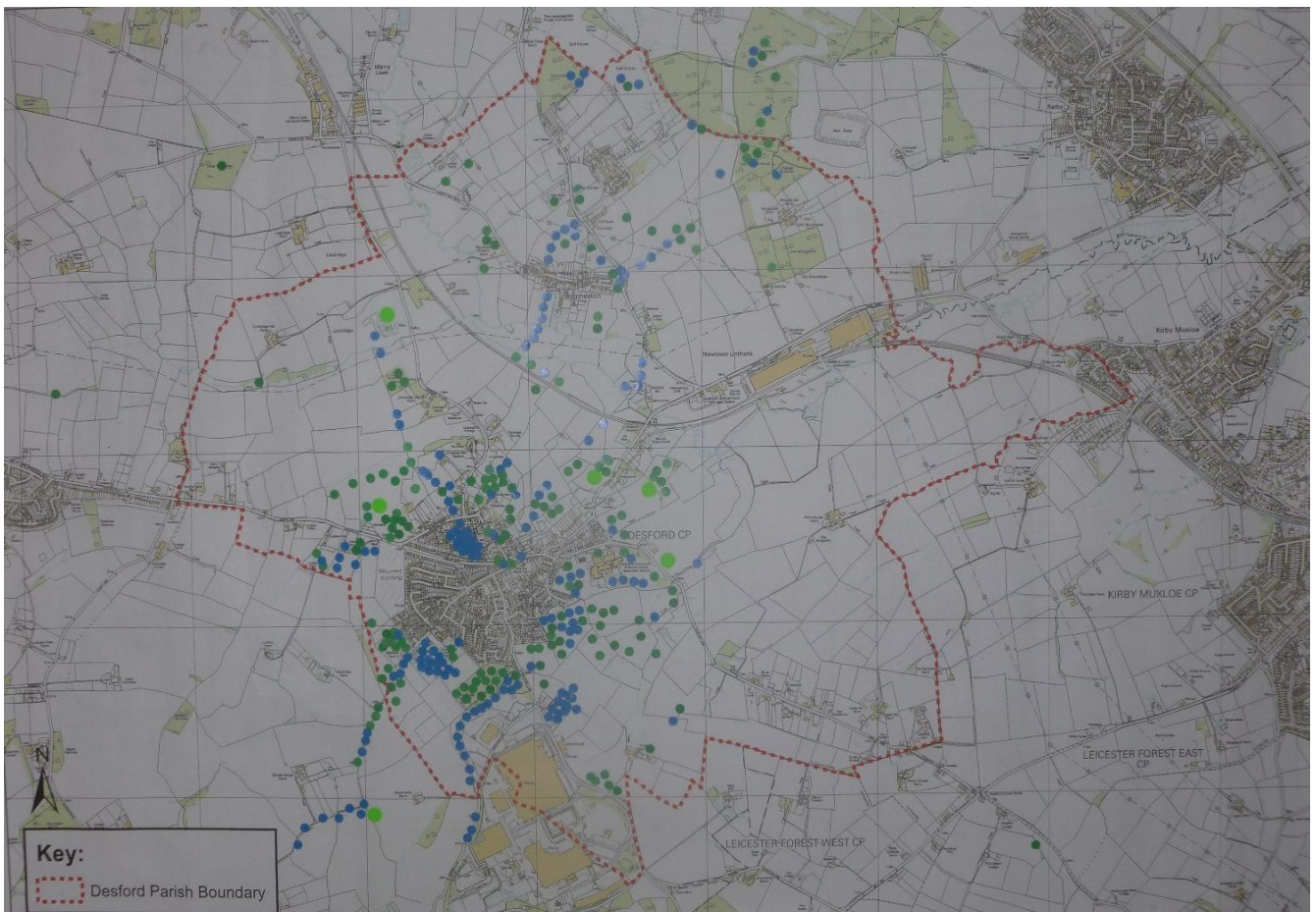
Please place a **BLUE** dot on up to 3 green spaces that you value most for Leisure & Recreation (e.g. walking, cycling, relaxing, playing, or sport).

Please place a **GREEN** dot on up to 3 green spaces that you value most for their visual amenity (view of, from or within the village).

### Total Dots

**Blue:168**

**Green:175**





## History & Heritage

<b>Question / Instruction</b>	IN RELATION TO HISTORY & HERITAGE <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li><li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU NOT LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li><li>• <i>WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED</i></li></ul>
<b>Total Comments</b>	<b>13</b>

### COMMENTS

#### LIKE

- I like the village signs with the Reid and Signs lit / aeroplane symbol.

#### NOT LIKE

- The area around the old pump is very untidy.
- Less development less new estates keep building to a minimum to meet government guidelines. Keep it as a village.
- Very disappointed when installation of modern street light outside Church Lane! As part of the village conservation area. A heritage style lamp would be more appropriate. Contact already made with councillors and HBBC.
- Mr Hubbs old shop building is a bit of a disgrace. It's part of the old village and lets it down.

#### WOULD LIKE TO SEE

- *We have some lovely buildings that need to be preserved. Can anything be done about the deterioration of former Polebrook House / Desford Boys School. Are they waiting until it is unsafe to justify knocking it down?*
- *We have wonderful heritage in Desford and we are lucky to have those who have an interest in preserving this. Ways need to be sought to protect sites which have been subject to vandalism.*
- It is good that we have a conservation area. Could it be enhanced with signage and a Heritage Trail?
- Properties within the conservation area should be encouraged to maintain the exteriors to a visually acceptable standard and not allowed to become an eyesore.
- More heritage lamp posts.
- Better quality street furniture.
- Grade 2 listed buildings need more protection and prevent new development etc adjacent to them. E.g. old white cottage shown in photo.
- Please don't leave the empty post office vacant. Such a shame it's closed.



<b>Flooding</b>	
<b>Question / Instruction</b>	IN RELATION TO FLOODING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li> <li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU NOT LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li> <li>• <i>WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED</i></li> </ul>
<b>Total Comments</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>COMMENTS</b>	
<p><b>NOT LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Flooding at the junction of Main Street, Markfield Lane and Botcheston Lane has become more frequent over the last two winters and the land behind Bennington Close is regularly waterlogged during the winter months and after heavy rain.</i></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>WOULD LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED</b></p> <p><b>Maintenance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Need to keep ditches clear to prevent flooding and also tackle run off.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Flood Defences:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater flood defences at Newton Unthank and Lindridge Lane near Lancaster pub.</li> </ul> <p><b>Flood Plain:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building and development on flood plains should be forbidden</li> </ul>	

<b>Renewable Energy</b>	
<b>Question / Instruction</b>	IN RELATION TO RENEWABLE ENERGY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU LIKE</i></li> <li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU NOT LIKE</i></li> <li>• <i>WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE</i></li> </ul>
<b>Total Comments</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>COMMENTS</b>	
<p><b>LIKE / WOULD LIKE TO SEE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Bring it on – Definitely!!</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Solar Renewable:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Need to see the impact of new solar farms.</i></li> <li>• <i>The addition of two solar farms should be sufficient investment for the parish, more green space being converted.</i></li> <li>• Encourage fitting of solar thermal panels on roofs.</li> <li>• More grants for solar panels.</li> </ul>	

**Wind Renewable:**

- *I'm not adverse to single wind turbines, but would not support a large number due to noise, damage to bird life.*
- *Do not object to wind turbines.*
- Large turbines are not ugly and are a significant contribution to renewable energy. Would like to see house holder scheme encouraged.

**New Builds:**

- We must go down the renewable / sustainable route. New buildings should have solar panels etc.
- The building estate should have been built with solar water heating a PV panels – why an earth not??
- Enough new housing already, should be built to include solar panels.
- All new houses should be built with solar panels on the roof as standard.
- New build properties to include energy saving measures such as solar panels, boilers operating on food waste etc.
- Planning rules should require any new building to have solar panels on from the start.
- Many new houses are being built in the village without incorporating any renewable installations. Can the neighbourhood plan be used to encourage / enforce some renewable energy usage.
- Incorporate solar panels on new build homes and other energy saving technology.

**NOT LIKE****Solar Renewable:**

- Green fields should not have solar panels put on them.

**Wind Renewable:**

- *Wind turbines are obtrusive and not conducive to the environment for Desford. More wind turbines should be resisted.*
- I don't like wind farms but what is the alternative?
- Wind turbines should be placed on windy hills where they work best!
- No more wind turbines around Desford. Unsightly and very inefficient.
- We have enough wind turbines thank you – Seconded!
- Understand need for wind turbines, but the number we have in Newbold Verdon / Desford area is a blot on the landscape. I can see 6 from one window.
- **Other:** *There are already over 50 renewable energy installs in the parish. I would be interested to join with others to look at further opportunities in the parish.*
- We need to keep well abreast of new technology in energy conservation definitely!

## Facilities & Services

<b>Question / Instruction</b>	<p style="text-align: center;">IN RELATION TO FACILITIES &amp; SERVICES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li> <li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU NOT LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li> <li>• <i>WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED</i></li> </ul>
<b>Total Comments</b>	<b>38</b>

### COMMENTS

#### LIKE / MAINTAIN

- *Sport in Desford provides an excellent venue for community sport.*
- *Current facilities are excellent in Desford and very important to retain, particularly the pharmacy and small shops.*
- *Important to keep essential services such as doctor's / chemist in Desford.*
- *To keep pharmacy, Library, Village halls, Play grounds and recreation. Everything really.*
- *I would like to retain the pharmacy in the village as valued resource.*
- *Must keep village halls, play areas, village pubs and small shops.*
- *Important to retain the Greyhound, village hall in Botcheston and the pharmacy, Co-op, GP, library in Desford.*
- *Local pharmacies, doctor's surgeries and village stores are also a vital part of our community and should be protected.*
- *All local facilities and resources are important, particularly those that enable communities to come together socially.*
- *The two updated children's play areas are a great asset to the village. My grandchildren love them.*
- *Still has single GP surgery – but for how long?*
- *Has an academy that wants to engage with the village.*
- *Has lots of activity / contact groups for elderly people.*
- *Desford still has a semblance of a village although very reliant on small number of the same people to get things going.*

#### WOULD LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED

##### **Retail:**

- *Would like a convenience store in Botcheston.*
- *(Post office) a very poor facility in the wring area of the village.*
- *Very disappointed with the new post office position. Were villagers consulted on this?*

##### **Children & Young People:**

- *A skate board park for young people.*
- *Fencing at the park near the school to protect the children from the road.*

##### **Infrastructure:**

- *If area expanded, will need a larger GP practice and other health facilities.*
- *Need larger doctor's surgery and dentist. Parking needed for elderly people.*
- *Finance for GP's surgery to be found. This is needed before the surgery is required to take more patients.*
- *Ensure the cemetery ground is levelled off. I need to use an electric scooter – not safe at present.*

**Community:**

- *Village halls preserve communities like Botcheston, even though small.*
- Keep the library at all costs!
- Desford village Christmas Tree please!
- Lot of facilities gradually disappearing (Library!), post office, pubs etc.

**Leisure:**

- *Botcheston – would be helpful to have an outdoor gym on recreation area.*
- *Would like adult exercise equipment as part of play area at Botcheston.*
- Difficult to get to SID from old part of village without a car.
- A social club in the village rather than SID which is a bit far out.
- Lack of facilities – shops etc. Timing of Bosworth College pool difficult for public (not clubs) school holidays etc.
- Can the village hall be relocated to the centre of the village?
- An outdoor gym
- Outdoor gym equipment spread over several sites.
- A dog walking area so that there is no more dog mess on both play areas.

**Education:**

- Bosworth Collage used to run lots of evening / day classes, why can't we have something like that either there or elsewhere.

**Other:**

- Lot of initiatives have historically been frustrated by parish council.

<b>Traffic &amp; Transport</b>	
<b>Question / Instruction</b>	IN RELATION TO TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li> <li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU NOT LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li> <li>• <i>WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED</i></li> </ul>
<b>Total Comments</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>COMMENTS</b>	
<b>NOT LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</b>	
<b>Speeding:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lindridge lane is a rat run. Speeding cars and vans getting to Merrylees Industrial Estate 8-9am 4.30-6pm.</li> <li>• Speeding on Peckleton Lane going out of Desford is very common.</li> </ul>	
<b>Bus Service:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Sunday bus service?</li> <li>• Great new facilities in Hinckley, part paid for by council tax payers. No public transport to Hinckley to use it!!</li> <li>• Bus connections to Hinckley – not good.</li> </ul>	

### **Parking:**

- Parking on estates through village main streets.
- *Desford is a vibrant community, the shops are a valued part, but parking is so problematic and prevents business growth.*
- Parking is a nightmare – need parking areas and encourage use of public transport. Need buses to Hinckley.
- Main Street parking from surgery patients who don't park is a bottleneck and needs surgery to get patients to use car park. Also hall users park both sides obstruction to Co-op lorries and bin lorries.
- Parking and traffic outside primary school is terrible.
- Parking on footpath.
- Parking a problem outside the Co-op. Double yellow lines not obeyed!
- Parking village end Peckleton Lane causes mega bottle neck at rush hour when Caterpillar out / school run etc. Needs yellow lines.
- Parking outside the Co-op on High Street! Let's start fining people.
- There is far too much anti social parking, causing hazards at road junctions.
- Parking for the surgery problematic. I don't know what the answer is! Some days lorries have difficulty getting along Main Street.
- Stop people parking on the footpaths e.g. corner of Willows Street and St Martin's Drive. They are getting used as extra car parking and children are playing around them – very dangerous!

### **Dangerous Junctions:**

- Problem with roundabout outside old post office. Difficult to see traffic from caterpillar direction.

### **HGV's:**

- *The Crowncrest HGV's and other heavy traffic still cause a problem and create a risk for vulnerable road users.*
- *Heavy goods vehicles are frequently travelling up Leicester Lane and then finding they cannot access caterpillar or other businesses via Peckleton Lane. They are causing damage to street furniture as they attempt to turn around and go back the way they came.*
- *HGV's over the maximum weight go through the village.*
- Lorries through village, no action – just talk.
- Heavy lorries still coming through village. Can we do anything about this?
- What do we have to do to stop HGV's coming through the village, have complained every time.
- Lorries too many, too long. Need to back several times before turning at roundabout and Peckleton Lane. Causes hold ups.
- Lorries a problem going to Caterpillar, especially outside Co-op.
- HGV's ignoring weight restriction. Police action required.
- Artics / HGV's which should not be in the village anyway frequently seen with drivers on their mobile phones. They MUST be stopped entering the village.
- *The Crowncrest development is already a nuisance and still regularly breaks the times for lorries arriving and leaving the site. We cannot cope with more heavy traffic.*

### **Traffic volume / Congestion:**

- Congestion in village centre.
- *The junction at the top of Peckleton Lane is becoming very congested more frequently. It is difficult to suggest a workable solution.*
- Increase in traffic especially on Lindridge Lane which is a rat run to caterpillar and Merrylees Industrial.
- No further development in Desford and surrounding villages until the traffic volume through Desford – particularly High Street is addressed fully. We are the only route

for traffic through villages to A46 and M1.

- Too much traffic along B582 at rush hours. Central roundabout too small.
- Traffic issues are of most concern like other comments, through traffic using Lindridge Lane and Main Street causes chaos at busy and other times.
- Congestion on main Street and Newbold Road – One way traffic?
- High street has too high a volume of traffic at times. Feel certain an accident will happen. Options for easing traffic flow now blocked by relatively recent house building.
- No further traffic plans which may increase traffic on Kirkby Road, Desford. Congested at present often acutely.

**Other:**

- *People are restricted once they can no longer drive, and need to look at moving out of the area.*

**WOULD LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED**

**Cycle / Footpaths:**

- *Create a cycle lane down past Crowncrest from Desford to Kirby Muxloe. Need to encourage people out of cars for short journeys to work, but people don't feel safe in the speed of the traffic.*
- *Provision of a safe cycleway between Newtown Unthank and Kirby Muxloe.*
- *Footpaths and cycle ways should be improved between our villages. Improvements should also be considered or the junction at Newtown Unthank.*
- *Cycling – can safe routes be provided?*
- *Make a SAFE cycling route to Bosworth Academy.*

**Speed Monitoring:**

- *Speed warning signs at either side of village e.g. digital ones.*

**Traffic Speed /Calming:**

- *Can we have traffic calming without the speed humps?*
- *Roundabout or lights at Newtown Unthank / Tubes straight.*
- *Road junction at Newtown Unthank Desford Road – Botcheston should be roundabout (preferred) or lights.*
- *The speed of traffic needs to be reduced down Mansfield lane – but no speed bumps, this would make it worse.*
- *Need for a pedestrian crossing on manor Road to slow traffic and allow elderly and young families to cross safely.*
- *Speed reduction measures in Peckleton Lane before Parkstone Road turning.*
- *Speed reduction measures needed on Station Road and Leicester Lane.*
- *20 mph limits on residential roads.*
- *Manor Road needs some sort of speed reduction – ramps or chicane.*
- *Good HUMPS just before Manor Road (Library) bus stop, to reduce speed at roundabout which is ignored! in general.*
- *Vehicle Activation Signs for Manor Road.*

**Bus Service:**

- *There is a need for a review of public transport, particularly to Hinckley and Coalville and to encourage more to use public transport. No buses on a Sunday is restrictive for those without cars.*
- *A DIRECT bus service to Earl Shilton and Hinckley is needed for those who do not drive.*

**Parking:**

- More structured approach to parking on the Main Street near doctors and church centre.
- Put traffic warden outside Co-op at T junction, the fines on yellow lines would pay for a bypass.
- Zebra crossing and / or parking made at side of school on unused school field.
- Parking on ONE SIDE (which side can vary) Only on Newbold Road and Main Street.
- More spot checks by traffic wardens

**HGV's:**

- *The large lorries must be directed around the village better. Caterpillar and Neovia must give directions more clearly, particularly to drivers from abroad.*
- *We need to find a way to control HGV traffic from entering the village.*
- Lorries traffic to caterpillar. Bypass near Newbold Road allotments to caterpillar – good idea A47.
- B582 relief road needed from Hunts lane to Peckleton lane providing access to caterpillar and the A47.
- It is a nightmare living in High Street these days. Nothing has happened about the HGV's for 47 years. We need a bypass.
- HGV signs to be multilingual.
- Contact highways agency to get signs put further back before Desford so that lorries to caterpillar are stopped in good time and can take the correct route!
- Better enforcement of traffic weight limit from roundabout to Co-op on Kirkby Road.
- Better signage to stop HGV's before they reach the roundabout.
- Stop HGV's coming into Desford heading for Caterpillar etc or coming away FROM Caterpillar etc. Signage at entry to Forest Rise – NO THROUGH ROAD.

**Traffic volume / Congestion:**

- *Desford needs a Bypass road from caterpillar through to Newbold Road to ease traffic co Bypass a good idea.*
- *Desford needs a Bypass road from caterpillar through to Newbold Road to ease traffic congestion through the village.*
- Ring road / bypass for caterpillar traffic were proposed years ago but did not progress. – time to revisit the idea perhaps to alleviate village centre traffic problems.
- Desford needs a bypass – from Leicester Lane to Peckleton Lane.
- Roads are inadequate for volume of traffic at certain times. Bypass?
- Build a Bypass to take traffic away from the village.
- Interactive traffic lights instead of a roundabout.
- Install interactive traffic lights at exit to estates rather than roundabouts. Better flow of traffic and less pollution.
- Make Main Street / Newbold Road one way!
- A Bypass
- Re-open the station and railway line.
- Get the Ivanhoe line opened up again. Even if it only a 2 or 3 car shuttle at important times.



## Housing

<b>Question / Instruction</b>	IN RELATION TO HOUSING <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li><li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU NOT LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li><li>• <i>WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED</i></li></ul>
<b>Total Comments</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>COMMENTS</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>I like the range of housing but needs to meet needs of young and elderly and be affordable.</i></li></ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOT LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</b></p> <p><b>Restrict / Control:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stop building more houses, otherwise Desford will no longer be a village.</li><li>• No further housing estate developments!</li><li>• Will lose our identity if the village grows.</li><li>• Desford is a village. Let's keep it that way! We don't need to make it any bigger. The services won't support it and it changes the atmosphere!</li></ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>WOULD LIKE TO SEE</b></p> <p><b>Affordable Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It would be good if preference could be given to affordable housing for young people in the village, also more bungalows are needed.</li><li>• <i>Work with housing association to provide houses for local people e.g. by shared ownership.</i></li><li>• <i>We need affordable housing for young people to stay in the parish and for older people to be able to downsize to release their large houses.</i></li><li>• Need more affordable housing for young people.</li><li>• No more executive homes – but more affordable housing.</li><li>• More social rented homes and starter homes for younger people.</li></ul> <p><b>In keeping:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New developments and houses all look awful and not in keeping with the area.</li></ul> <p><b>Dwelling Type:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Need of more medium size bungalows. Fully agree, we would like to downsize but where to? Need a nice bungalow.</li><li>• Any new build should have solar water heating and PV panels, surely a no brainer!</li><li>• Warden controlled apartments and bungalows. Very little accommodation for the elderly.</li><li>• Need sheltered / warden controlled apartments.</li><li>• Need for bungalows / sheltered accommodation for elderly population. Smaller starter homes for first time buyers. Houses with decent gardens.</li><li>• Lack of bungalows in developments. Impossible to downsize.</li></ul>	

- Enough parking spaces with each new build so no parking on the road.
- Some consideration for 2 /3 bungalows elderly persons. Not down any hills – level area important. Provision of disabled parking.
- More rented accommodation needed and houses / flats with 2 or 2 bedrooms.
- 2 bedroom bungalows for oaps with disabled facility levelled homes 2 to 3 bed. Not everybody needs a 4 /5 bed with double garage, unless you are a commuter. Locals have nowhere to go.
- Sheltered housing for those needing someone to keep an eye on them.
- Any development must provide parking spaces especially has so many families have two cars. Rental properties are needed.
- An older person's complex within the village of Desford.
- Bungalows for people to retire and downsize into!
- Bungalows to which people can downsize, thus freeing up bigger properties or smaller detached properties.
- Bungalows flats or small houses with parking and or garages are needed so older people can downsize. They should be built on level ground (not like Parkstone Road Estate) with shops etc nearby. Provide more shop premises. I would not want to live in a over 55's village. I would prefer to be in amongst other age groups.

**Infrastructure:**

- *Development must take account of knock on travel difficulties on the small roads through the village.*
- *Any housing needs to take account of impact and extra traffic.*
- More housing puts a strain on existing resources e.g. schools / doctors / road.
- Any new housing needs to work in tandem with village facilities i.e. schools, doctors etc. (Facilities already seemed to be stretched).
- We need to take our share of housing need across the borough, but ensure that this is in line with infrastructure.

**Other:**

- *As soon as properties come up for sale, they are quickly sold – therefore new developments should continue.*
- *Work to get unused buildings e.g. Polebrook Tower and Social Club into housing.*
- Concerned about building application near school – access safety concerns.
- Keeping with Bellway, are we not up to Local Plan Level?

## Public Rights of Way

<b>Question / Instruction</b>	IN RELATION TO PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li> <li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU NOT LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li> <li>• <i>WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED</i></li> </ul>
<b>Total Comments</b>	<b>15</b>

### COMMENTS

#### LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH

- *Like the paths.*
- *Footpaths good – well done.*
- *Leicestershire County Council is very good at keeping the footpaths clear when difficulties are reported, which is excellent.*

#### WOULD LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED

##### **Dogs**

- More signs and dog poo bins on footpath. Common occurrence is dog walkers collecting it in a bag and leaving it on footpaths

##### **New Paths**

- Footpath on Sport in Desford side of road all the way from the village.
- Would be good to see more cycle paths.
- We could do with a footpath linking Peckelton Lane bridleway across to Hunts Lane.

##### **Maintain**

- *We have some lovely footpaths around the area, particularly over to Ratby Burroughs. It would help to keep some of the less used pathways clear, and make it safer to walk to Thornton.*
- Our footpath network is excellent but needs to be maintained.
- Who is responsible for upkeep of the bridleway? Some trees have been cut back (by whom?) good grass / weeds now encroaching on the tarmac close to parish boundary with Peckleton.
- Not all footpaths are kept clear. Some become almost blocked by thorns and nettles in the summer and more directions would help / encourage use.
- Better maintenance of trees / bushes along footpath from Peckleton Lane to Peckleton around rear of caterpillar

##### **Improve**

- *Consider separating paths and animals with electric fencing along edge of fields.*

##### **Guides**

- Map of bridle paths would be useful on notice boards.

##### **Other**

- *The 'Back Lane' to Peckleton should be protected as a rural bridleway.*

## Employment & Business/Economy

<b>Question / Instruction</b>	IN RELATION TO BUSINESS/ECONOMY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li> <li>• <i>WHAT DO YOU NOT LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH</i></li> <li>• <i>WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED</i></li> </ul>
<b>Total Comments</b>	<b>18</b>

### COMMENTS

#### NOT LIKE ABOUT DESFORD PARISH

- In Desford we have lost many facilities i.e. Pubs, shops, hardware etc. Can we lose anymore!!
- *The Co-ops provide an invaluable service and we are lucky to have a selection within 3 miles of Botcheston.*

#### WOULD LIKE TO SEE

##### **Retail:**

- A wider range of shops – Butchers, Bakers or Veg & Fruit etc. Encourage a new build for larger grocery store. Two small Co-ops selling the same things!!! at higher prices.
- Protect pubs, a social asset.
- Be a shame if the old post office shop space was not used. Fruit & Veg? Butchers?
- More parking facilities to encourage shopping in the village centre – Desford.
- *Please support the Greyhound and village hall in Botcheston, and keep this hamlet a lovely place to live.*
- *Apart from Botcheston village hall, the Greyhound is the only other place for people to gather. This facility is in real danger of being lost. An effort should be made to offer support and encouragement to the brewery (Marstons) to preserve this.*

##### **Industry:**

- Could site be found preferably brown field, to locate industrial units. They could be erected attractively, not the giant stereotype. This would be a good opportunity.
- I would like to relocate my business here – but what about new start ups and the opportunity for summer and casual jobs to introduce young people to work?
- Provide units somewhere for start up businesses, small businesses etc.
- Use brown field sites if possible. Try to keep its traffic away from our village!
- Use brown field sites.
- Expansion / development of existing businesses is preferable as a first option, rather than allowing large scale new units. Could new businesses state how they will contribute to the community?
- Good facilities already for a village this size. We need to make sure they stay. Warehouse / industrial units etc there are already enough. The village cannot cope with anymore heavy traffic.

##### **Employment:**

- Any businesses that allowed village residents to work in the village should receive encouragement and priority.
- People need jobs in the locality.

##### **Other:**

- Most of the people that work, work outside of parish. Gone are the days where all people live and work in the parish.

<b>Vision</b>	
<b>Question / Instruction</b>	PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF THE PARISH
<b>Total Comments</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>COMMENTS</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A village where everyone is proud to live.</li> <li>• A village where it retains its current resources but retains the village feel with a high sense of community.</li> <li>• A village where elderly people and people without cars are able to get to places that are not Leicester and Market Bosworth.</li> </ul>	

<b>Additional Comments</b>	
<b>6 COMMENTS</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Redraw parish boundary to give the bit of Kirby Muxloe back to them.</li> <li>• More bungalows required.</li> <li>• Compliments on preparing an excellent village plan and a most informative exhibition.</li> <li>• A good exhibition, well set out, with plenty of chances to make comments, about our villages and surrounds.</li> <li>• This is an excellent and well presented display.</li> <li>• Well set up exhibition, we will await further developments!</li> </ul>	



## DESFORD PARISH

### Neighbourhood Plan

**Do you care about what happens in your neighbourhood?**  
 As a Desford Parish resident, you have the right to influence developments in your local area. Don't just leave it to others - come to one of the forthcoming public open sessions and find out how you can help shape the future of Desford Parish through the Neighbourhood Plan. See over for dates and venues.

A Neighbourhood Plan considers issues including:

 Public Rights of Way  History & Heritage  Open Spaces & Environment  Facilities & Services  Traffic & Transport	 Housing  Renewable Energy  Local Economy  Employment & Business  Sport & Leisure
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**What is neighbourhood planning?**  
 Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. It provides them with the opportunity to set out a positive vision for how they want their community to develop over the next ten, fifteen, twenty years in ways that meet identified local need and make sense for local people. They are able to choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built, have their say on what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided, and grant planning permission for the new buildings they want to see go ahead.

**To learn more and find out how you can have your say, come along to one of the open sessions.**

**Friday 6th May**  
 17.00-19.00 | Botcheston Village Hall

**Saturday 7th May**  
 10.30-14.30 | St Martin's Church Centre

**Tuesday 10th May**  
 16.00-20.00 | Desford Library

