



*LAMBERHURST PARISH
NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN*



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Neighbourhood Plan Update
September 2nd 2021

**Why should you vote for our Neighbourhood
Development Plan on 16 September?**

**“Do you want Tunbridge Wells Borough Council to use the Lamberhurst
Neighbourhood Development plan to help decide planning applications in the
Lamberhurst Neighbourhood Area”**



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Developing the Plan

- **Started-Spring 2017**
- adopted by TWBC - Autumn 2017
- Steering Group established – March 2018
- Specialist sub-groups formed to gather evidence and examine issues April 2018
- Residents Survey issued and results summary communicated June/August 2018
- Public workshops to establish survey findings, issues and responses Autumn/Winter 2018
- Business survey undertaken and reviewed with owners Autumn 2018
- Consultation feedback integrated into Plan - Winter 2019/20
- Basic Conditions and Public Consultation Statements developed and written Spring 2020
- Plan formally submitted to TWBC Summer 2020
- TWBC conduct further public consultation Autumn 2020
- Independent Inspection Spring 2021
- **Plan approved for a Public Referendum Summer 2021**

Key Objectives of Lamberhurst NDP

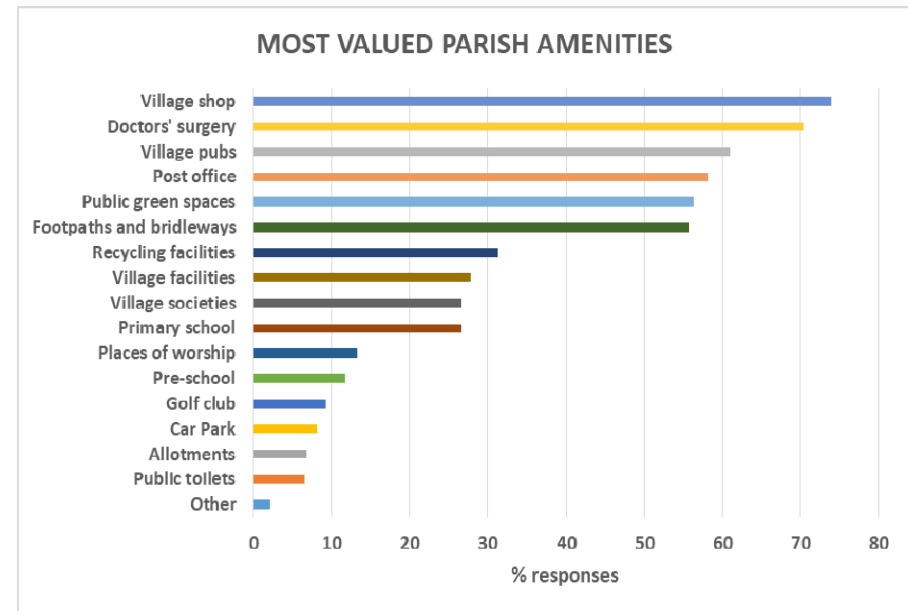
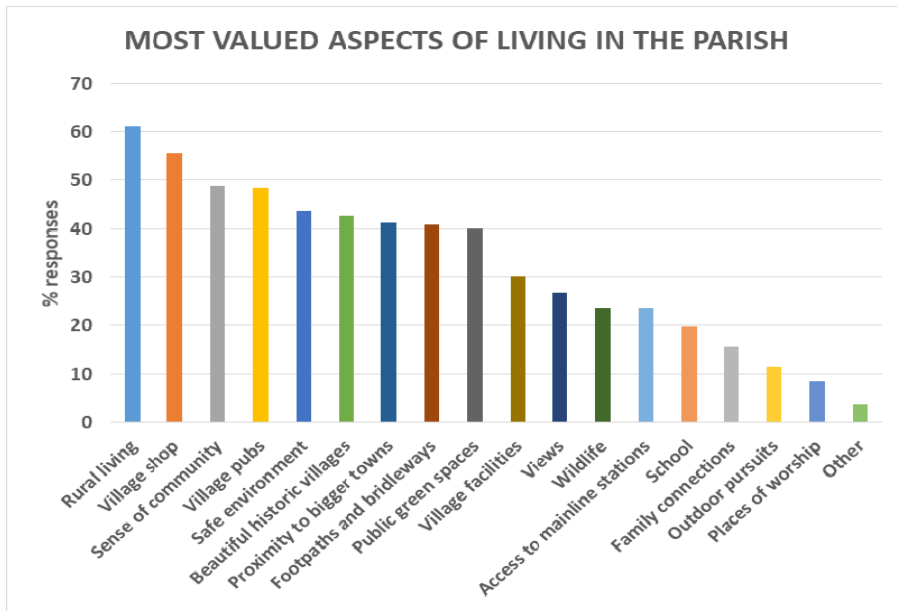


To understand and develop policies regarding:

- Future housing needs in Lamberhurst
- Criteria to be used when considering potential sites for housing
- Design requirements for new developments and homes
- Aspects of living in the Parish that are important to residents
- How to formulate plans for the delivery of sustainable development



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Lamberhurst has many aspects and amenities that are valued and add to the experience of living in the village

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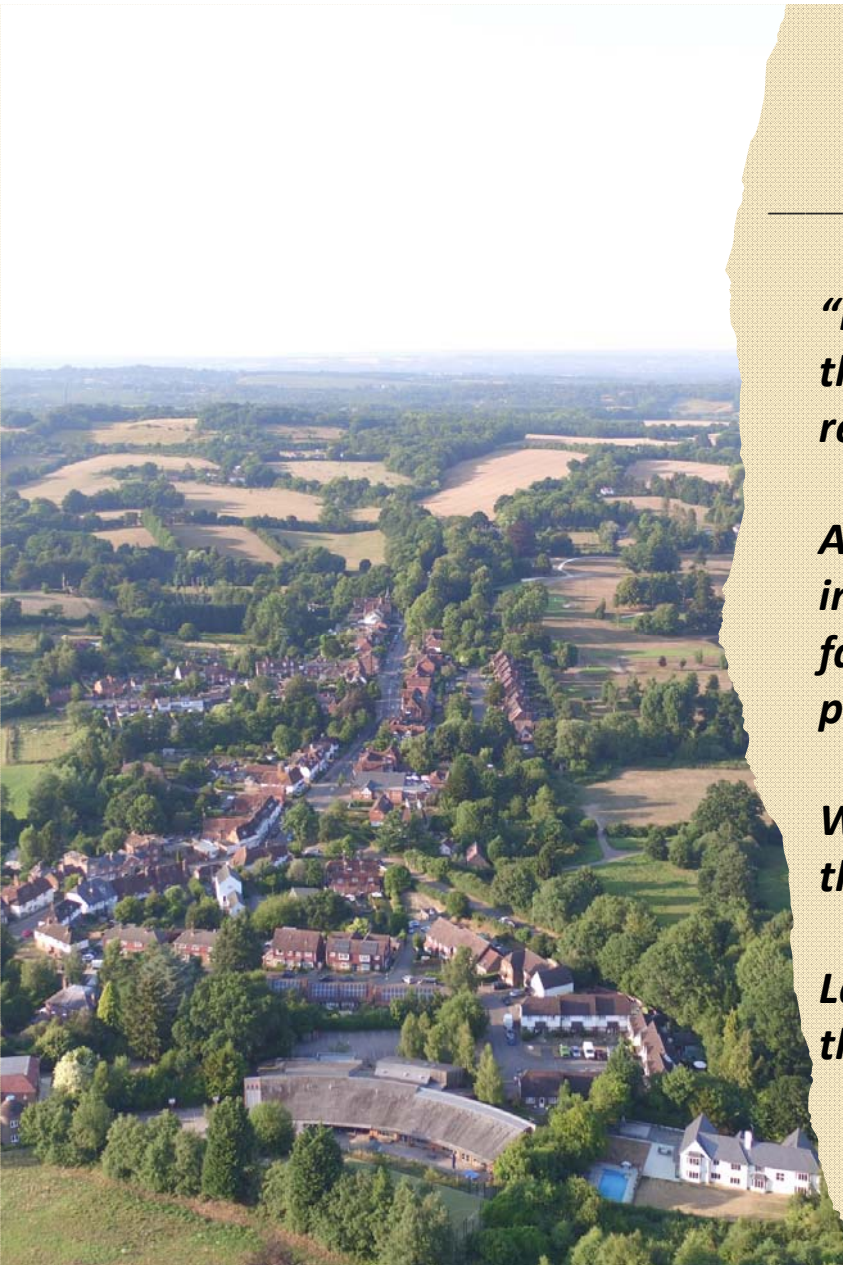


“In 2038, Lamberhurst Parish will be a vibrant and diverse community that takes care of its environment and provides suitable housing for residents of all ages and means.

At its heart will be a strong social hub with good local facilities including schools, GP surgery, shops, cafes, pubs, recycling and parking facilities as well as excellent links in terms of communications and public transport for residents and rurally based businesses.

Well maintained footpaths and byways will provide safe routes throughout to encourage walking and cycling.

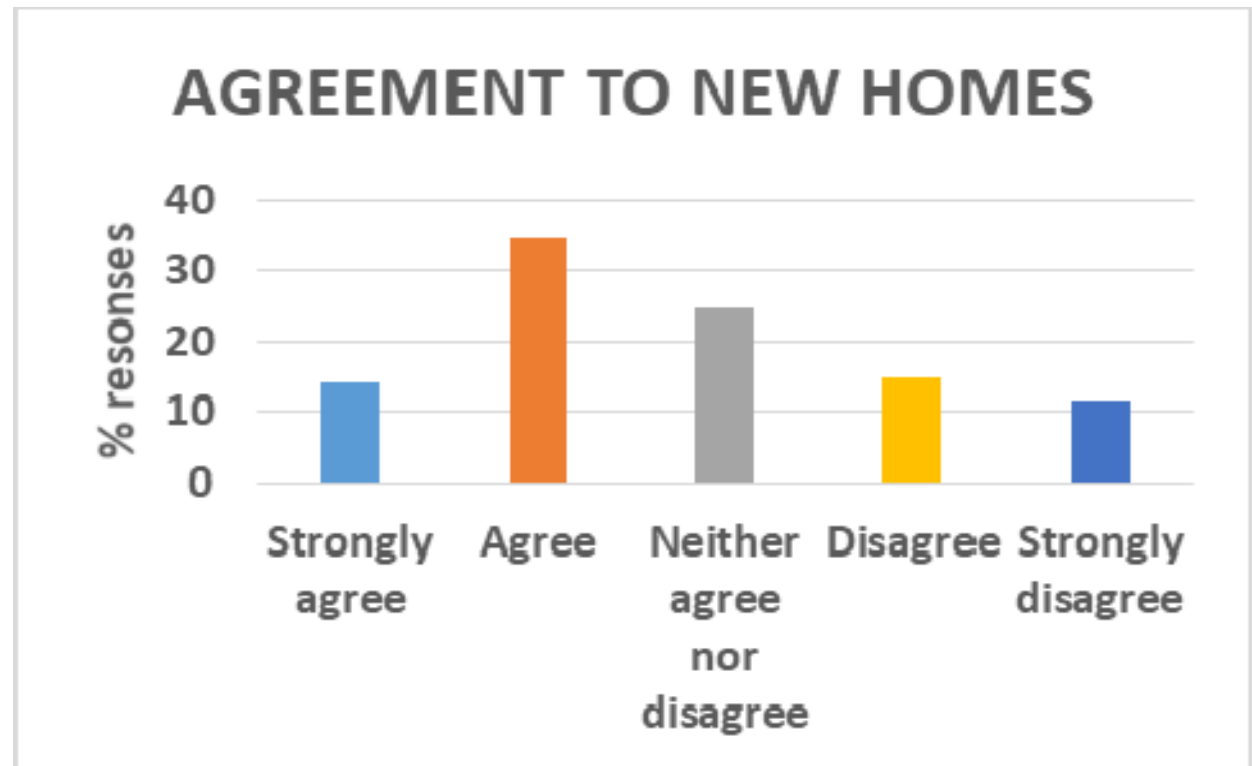
Lamberhurst will continue to be a compelling destination for visitors to the scenic Kentish High Weald.”





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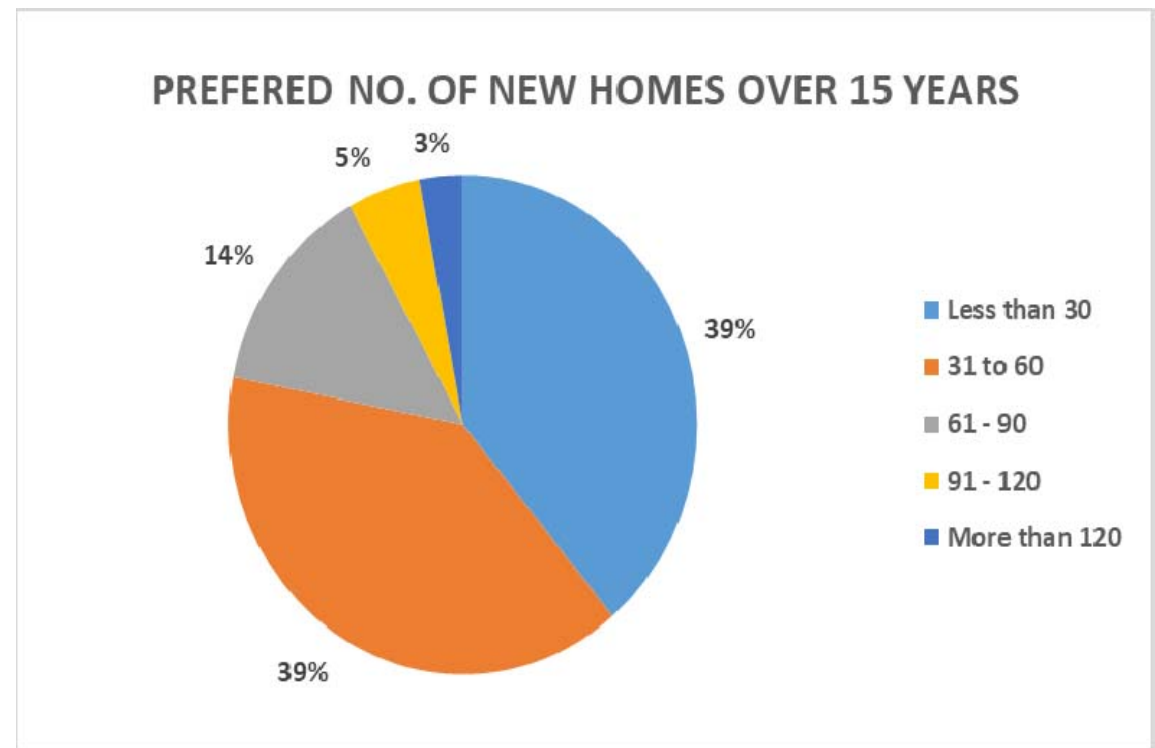
- 48% strongly agree/agree
- 27% strongly disagree/disagree
- 25% neither agree/disagree
- Balance in favour of some form of new development but conditions attached.





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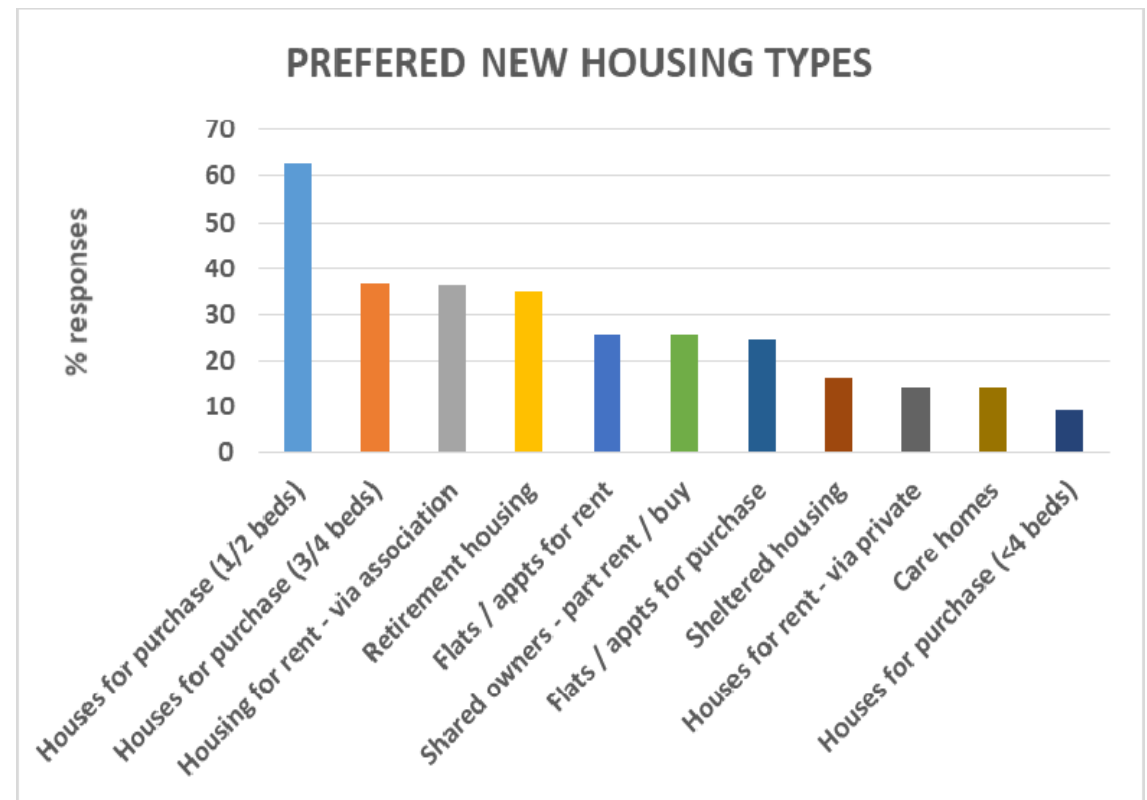
- Strong preference for the two responses up to 60 new homes in the next 15 years
- The Parish currently has 702 “household spaces”
- In 644 properties (67% owned, 33% rented)





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- Majority agreement to need for smaller homes and flats, social housing for rent and retirement.
- General agreement to build affordable housing for people with local connections and modest incomes.
- Parishioners, in general felt housing development should be through a range of small scale developments
- Suggests mixed low density small development may be the best way forward





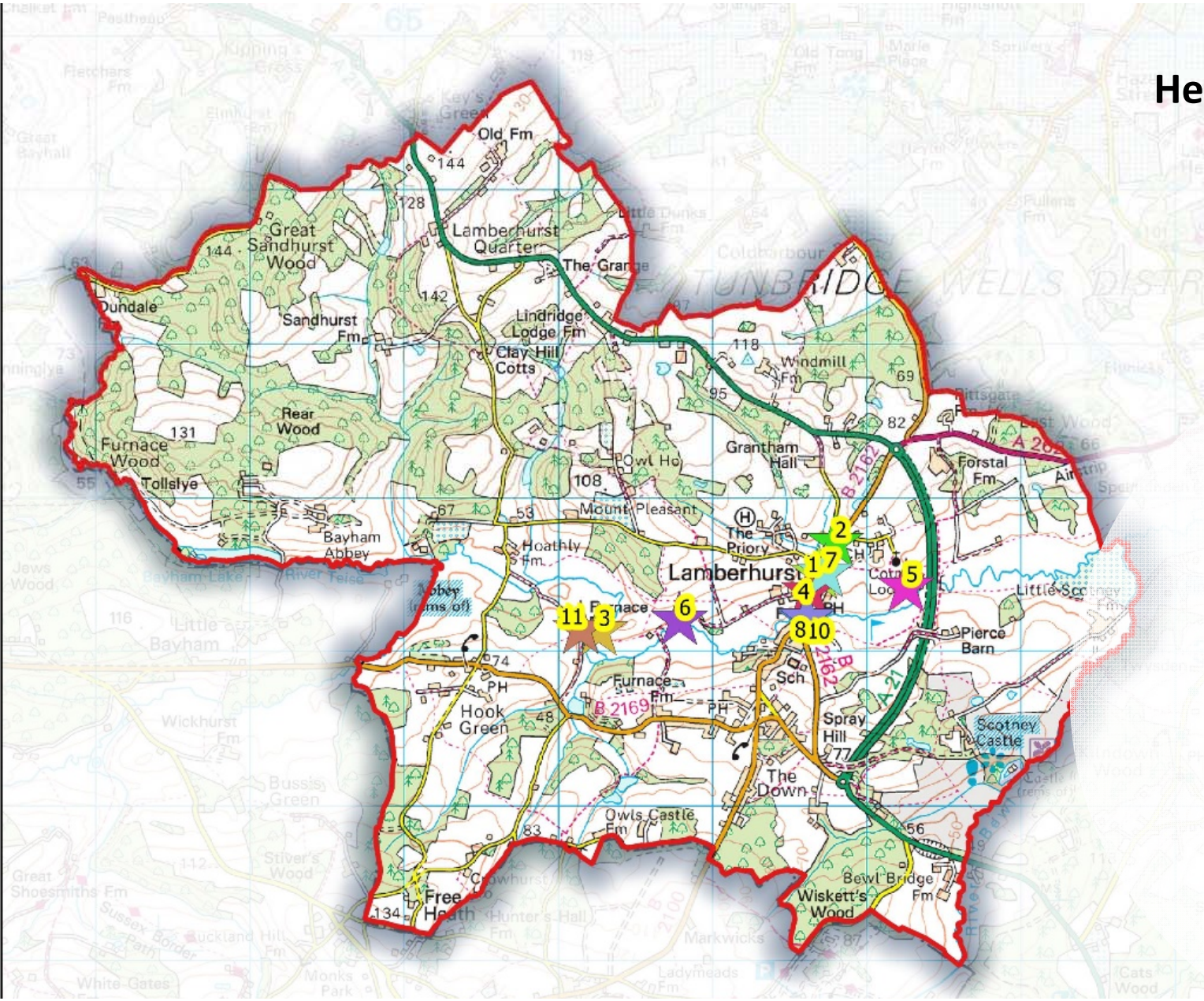
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**Housing Policy Objectives & Design Objectives
aim to ensure that:**

- Right building in the right place
- Retain 'Sense of Place' and character with sympathetic designs
- Darker skies
- Protect our heritage assets
- Ensure mixed housing
- Ensure affordable housing
- Replacement dwellings
- Support the climate emergency

Heritage Assets in Parish



-  Lamberhurst Parish Boundary
- Lamberhurst_Heritage_Assets**
-  1 - Village Clock (circa 1863)
-  2 - Milestones
-  3 - Iron Bridge
-  4 - Lock up
-  5 - Lady Well
-  6 - Hop Pickers' Huts and Cook House
-  7 - War Memorial
-  8 - Telephone Box:
-  10 - St Pauls Railings

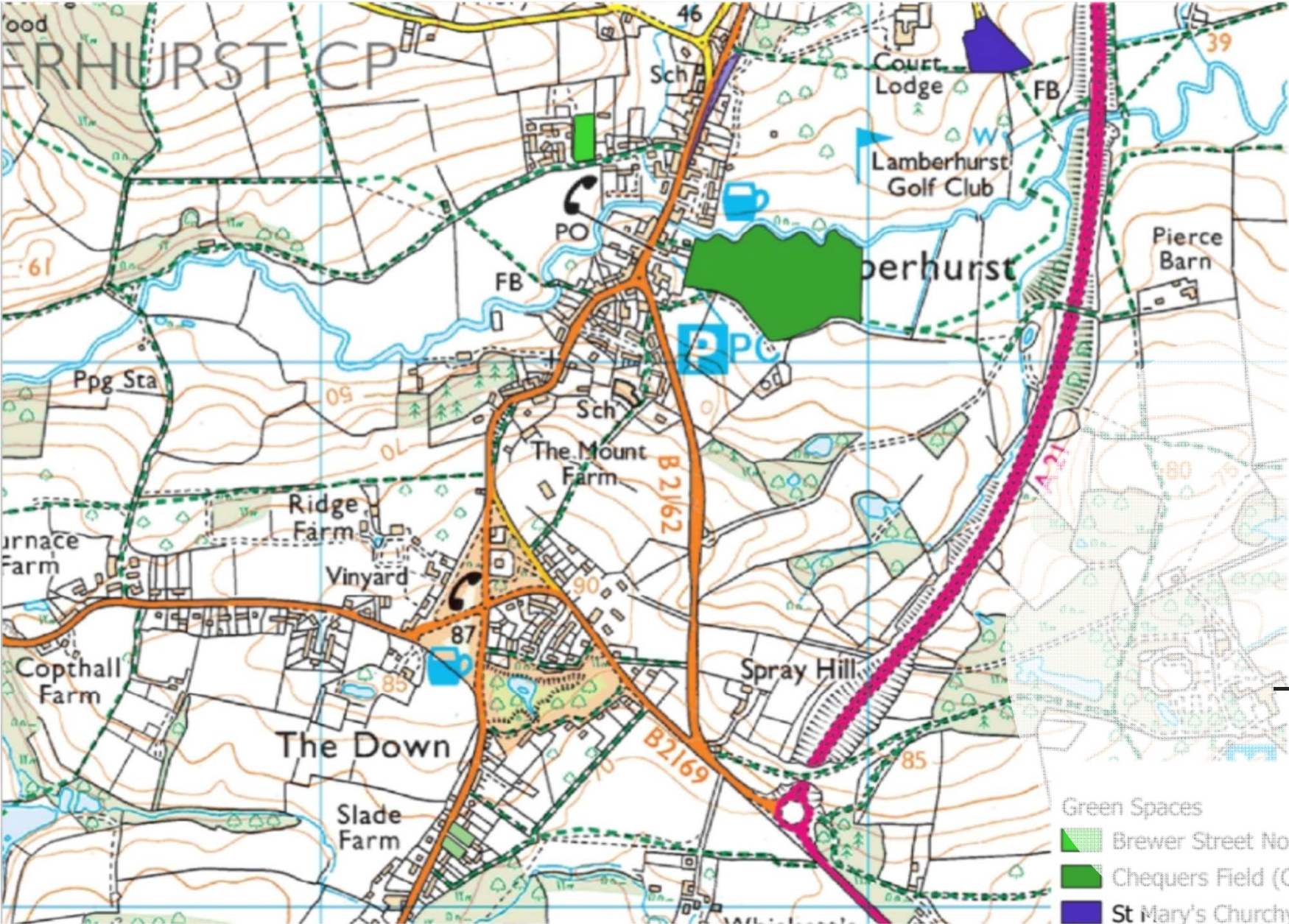


Landscape and environment Policy Objectives aim to protect and enhance our:

- Green Spaces and commonland
- Increase biodiversity within the landscape and ecology of the River Teise
- Key components of High Weald Landscape
- Valued views (12)
- Better connected rights of way, bridal paths and cycling routes

Allocated Green Spaces

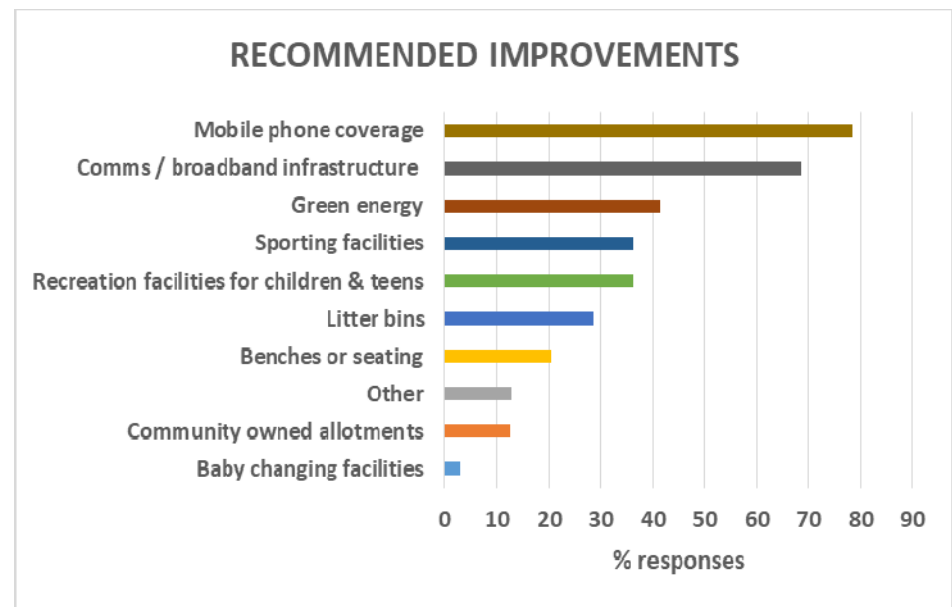
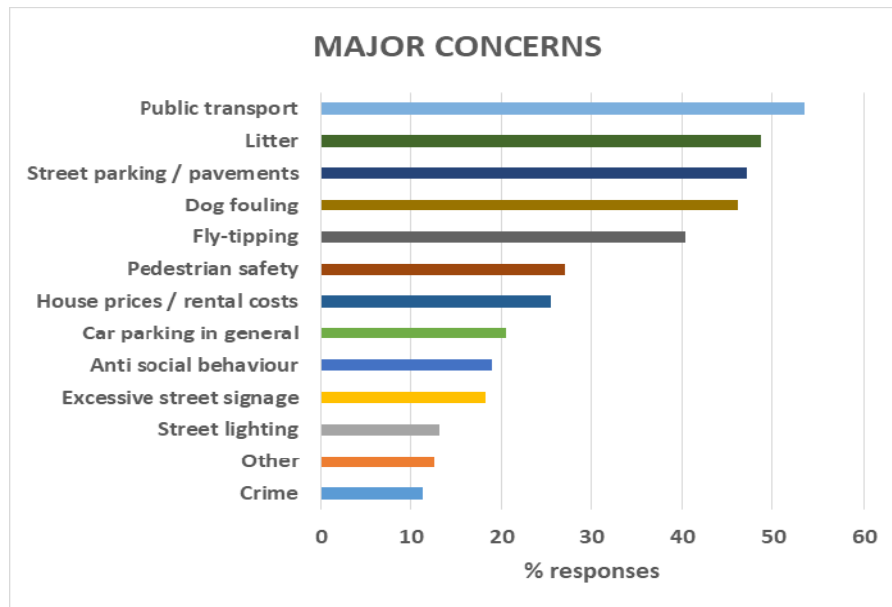
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- Green Spaces
- Brewer Street North Allotments
- Chequers Field (Cricket Field) and Playing Fields
- St Mary's Churchyard



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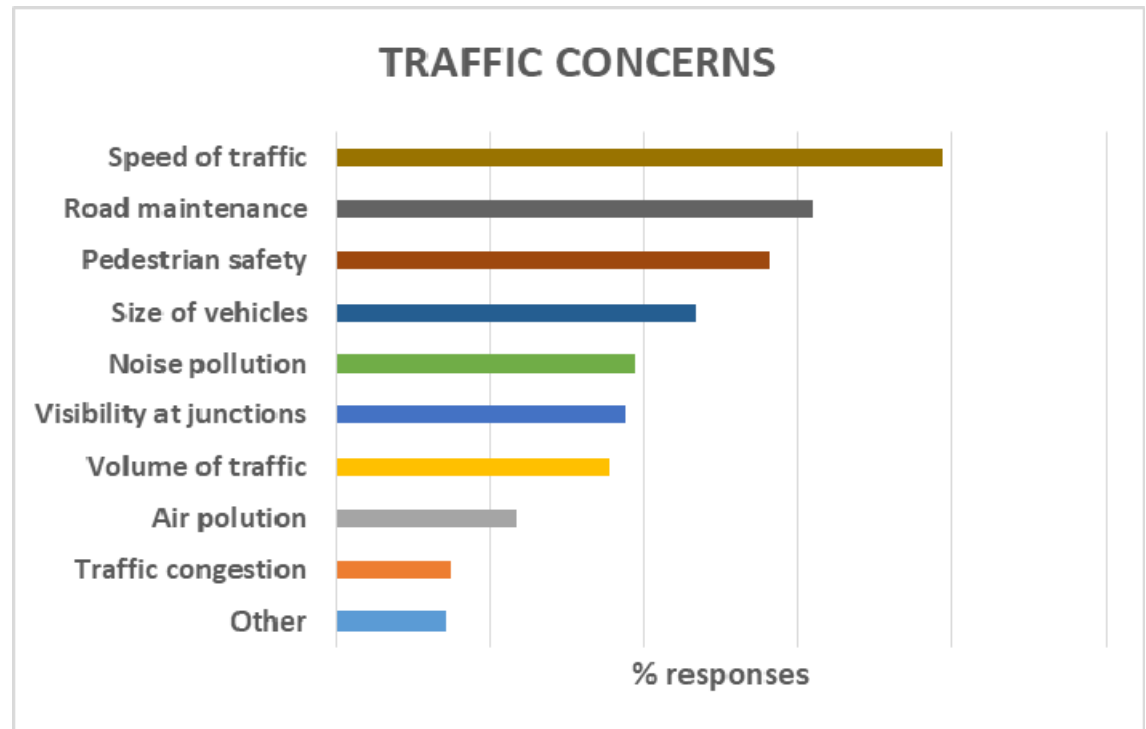


Telecoms/broadband infrastructure, parking and pavements and litter and dog fouling are the major areas of concern where parishioners are looking for improvements to be made.



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- 43% strongly agree/agree traffic is a problem, equal number strongly disagree/disagree
- Key concerns: speeding, maintenance, safety, size of vehicles
- Roads causing most concern:
 - A21
 - Spray Hill
 - The Slade
 - School Hill
 - Town Hill
 - Broadway
 - Furnace Lane
 - Down
 - Brewer St./Hopgarden Close





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Transport Policy Objectives

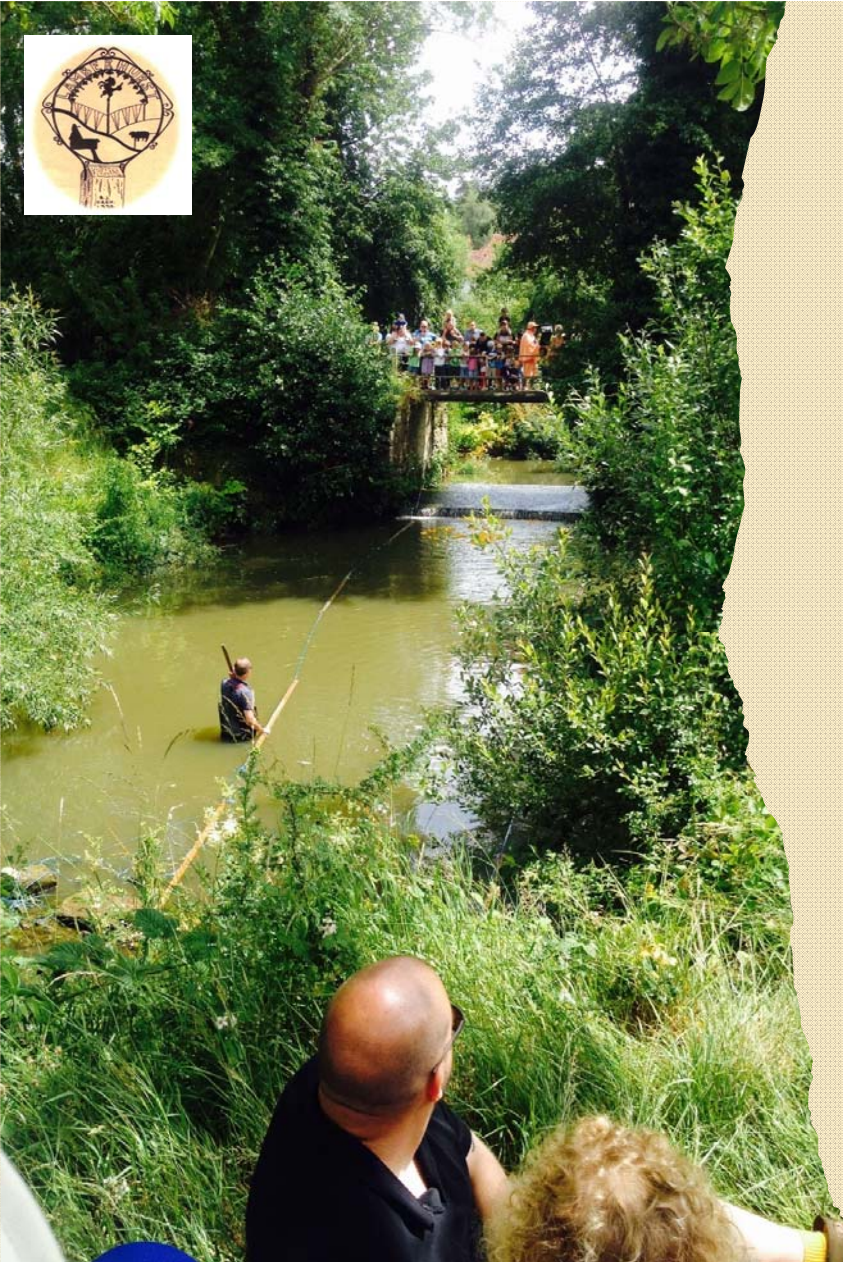
- Promote a sustainable transport – cycling, electric vehicles, walking
- Ensure that new developments away from the central village area incorporate walking links
- Promote better use of public transport by working to improve provision of bus services to Pembury, Paddock Wood and Tunbridge Wells



- **Business Objectives**
- **Encourage rurally based businesses such as home accommodation and farmsteads**
- **Produce Business Directory**
- **Increase tourism whilst protecting the AONB**



- **Community objectives**
- **Protect the community assets**
- **Improve telecommunication assets throughout the Parish**



Community Action Plan

- **Project P1 Traffic, parking and road safety**
 - Highways Improvement Plan
 - Clear pathways for safe walking and cycling
 - **Actions: Highways Improvement Plan**
- **Project P2 Improving Parish facilities**
 - Memorial Hall
 - Playing Fields
 - St Mary's Church
 - Improved care for young and elderly
 - **Actions: purchase of Chequers Field**
- **Project P3 Making Use of Developer Contributions**
 - Walking and Cycling Routes
 - Improve signs and interpretation boards
 - Multi-use sports pavilion
 - Plant indigenous flora
 - Promote improved broadband
 - **Actions: discussions to improve broadband**
 - **Actions: grants to improve commonland**
- **Project P4 Set up a business directory and information portal**
- **Project P5 Establish a common tourism communication platform**



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- “I strongly believe that new builds should show the character of local architecture”
- “This plan is vital to the village. We need to accept new housing, but we need to manage the sites so we protect the environment and wildlife. Unless we do we risk damaging the spirit and community of our village.”
- “ I would love to see some 2-3 bedroom affordable houses for sale”
- “...I value village life, the environment and biodiversity the village offers”
- “ We enjoy living in Lamberhurst as it is presently”
- “We have a beautiful village that could benefit from sympathetic expansion retaining the character, views, community, architecture and wildlife. New blood and commerce should be encouraged but Social Housing should be included....”



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Why should you vote for our Neighbourhood Development Plan on 16 September?

- **No Tunbridge Wells BC Local Plan**
- **Open to planning applications across the Parish**
- **This document will give legal protection and will sit alongside the new local plan**



Thank you

