

# WHEATHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL



## Wheathampstead Village Plan Questionnaire

You may have heard that the Parish Council is producing a Village Plan. Please take the time to complete this questionnaire – the greater the response, the easier it will be for us to persuade external partners that the Plan is a true representation of the views of Wheathampstead residents.

The aims of the Plan are:

- To influence how public money is spent in Wheathampstead
- To lobby local and central government for changes to our facilities and services

Important points:

- If more than one person in your household wants to complete a form, you may download a copy from [www.wheathampstead.net](http://www.wheathampstead.net) or collect one from the Parish Council office.
- There is a section at the end for those in your household who are under 18.
- The completed questionnaires must be returned by **30<sup>th</sup> May 2008** to either the Parish Council office or The Brewhouse Gallery. You may also return it by post to the Parish Council Office, The Memorial Hall, Marford Road, Wheathampstead, AL4 8AY.
- We will produce a report from the data collected and this will be available to view in many locations around the village.

Thank you, Best regards

Cllr Lisa Hobden, Chair, Village Plan Committee

### NOTES

Some questions ask you to give a score between 1 and 10 to items in a list. You can give any item any score depending on how important you feel it is. In the example, below, the scorer thinks that having fresh fruit and vegetables is the most important, followed by health foods but they are not at all interested in a bakery or off licence.

#### *Example Only*

Which items would you like to see in our local supermarket? (please score 1 to 10 with 10 the highest)

- [ 4 ] Fresh fish counter
- [ 1 ] Fresh bakery
- [ 10 ] Fresh fruit & vegetables
- [ 1 ] Off licence
- [ 6 ] Delicatessen
- [ 8 ] Other...Health foods..

**1. INTRODUCTION**

Which of these is your MAIN PRIORITY to improve in Wheathampstead? Please tick only one.

- Traffic and Transport
- Facilities for the young
- Crime and Policing
- The Environment
- Shops and Businesses
- Public Footpaths, cycle paths, Bridleways

If you could change ONE thing about Wheathampstead, what would it be?

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**2. THE ENVIRONMENT**

What are your most important concerns about the local village environment? (please score each on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the highest – see note on front page)

- [ ] Traffic speed and quantity
- [ ] Litter/fly tipping
- [ ] Quality of roads and pavements
- [ ] Dog mess
- [ ] Recycling facilities
- [ ] Street cleaning
- [ ] Refuse collection
- [ ] Regular York stone cleaning in the High Street
- [ ] Better signs/removal of unnecessary signs
- [ ] Heritage/historic information signs
- [ ] Floral displays
- [ ] Other .....

How/where could the village be made more attractive?

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How do you think village signs could be improved? (Please comment on type, location, quantity and whether they reflect the character of the village)

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How do you think floral displays could be improved?

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Do you have any further comments on the environment in Wheathampstead?

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**3. TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT**

How concerned are you about the safety of our roads and the level of speed of vehicles travelling through the village? (please circle 1 to 6)

Not at all 2 3 4 5 6 Very

Which areas of the village should traffic speed/safety be improved? (please score each on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the highest)

- [ ] Marford Road
- [ ] Brehouse Hill
- [ ] The Hill
- [ ] Village Centre
- [ ] Lower Luton Road
- [ ] Conquerors Hill
- [ ] Cory Wright Way (“the by-pass”)
- [ ] Other

.....

Which of the following measures, and where, would you support in an attempt to reduce the speeding of traffic through the main roads in the village? (please score each on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the highest)

- [ ] Speed humps
- [ ] Pinch points/Chicanes
- [ ] Flashing speed limit signs
- [ ] Zebra crossing
- [ ] Pelican crossing
- [ ] Traffic Lights
- [ ] Increasing the 20mph zone along the main roads in the village centre
- [ ] Rumble Strips
- [ ] Average Speed Checks
- [ ] Speed cameras
- [ ] Other .....

Do you consider the road surfaces are **adequate** in terms of road safety and quality for both drivers and cyclists? (please circle 1 to 6)

Not at all Very  
 1      2      3      4      5      6

If no, which areas do you consider would benefit from resurfacing or repairing?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Are you **concerned** about the overall volume of heavy goods vehicles and other large vehicles travelling through the village (including Lower Luton Road)? (please circle 1 to 6)

Not at all Very  
 1      2      3      4      5      6

How **important** is it to have an enforceable lorry ban? (please circle 1 to 6)

Not at all Very  
 1      2      3      4      5      6

Are you a regular user of the bus services which travel through the village?

Yes       No

If no, what might convince you to use the bus service? (please score each on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the highest)

- More frequent buses
  - Cheaper buses
  - More reliable, on time service
  - Electronic signs at key bus stops
  - More bus shelters
  - More seats at bus stops
  - A service going to .....
  - New shelters funded by advertising billboards?
  - A direct bus service to the Harpenden Train station
  - A direct bus service to a local supermarket
  - A more frequent service to St Albans Town Centre
  - Other
- .....

Are there any areas where you consider parking to be a problem? Please give details

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

If so, how would you like to see the parking problem resolved? (please score each on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the highest)

- Double yellow lines
- Enforcement by traffic warden of current double yellow lines
- Improved off-street parking
- More car park space
- Other .....

How **difficult** do you find it to park in the village centre to use the shops and other facilities there? (please circle 1 to 6)

Not at all Very  
 1      2      3      4      5      6

Do you feel that the junction with King Edward Place and the High Street is **dangerous** for public access? (please circle 1 to 6)

Not at all Very  
 1      2      3      4      5      6

Do you have any further comments on Traffic and Transport in Wheathampstead?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**4. CRIME AND DISORDER**

What do you perceive are the main priorities for policing in Wheathampstead? (please score each on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the highest)

- Speeding traffic
- Enforcement of lorry ban
- Anti Social Behaviour
- Theft
- Drugs
- Vandalism
- Parking
- Other .....

Are there any areas/times that you consider anti-social behaviour to be an issue? Please give details and any evidence you have personally experienced.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any areas/times that you consider drug taking/dealing/ underage drinking to be a problem? Please give details.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



## 6. VILLAGE DAY

Wheathampstead Parish Council sponsors and organises an annual Village Day for the community of Wheathampstead, held every July.

Are you aware of the annual Village Day Parade and stalls/shows on the Marford Field?

Yes  No

Do you attend Village Day?

Yes  No  Sometimes

If not, why not?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

On which day should Village Day be held?

Saturday  Sunday  No preference

Which of the following would you like us to consider for future Village Days? (please score each on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the highest)

- [  ] Beer Tent  
 [  ] Hog Roast  
 [  ] Ethnic foods, i.e. Indian snacks  
 [  ] Other food/drink (please state)  
 [  ] Fun Fair  
 [  ] Art Exhibition  
 [  ] "It's a Knockout"-style games  
 [  ] Traditional "sports-day" events for the whole family  
 [  ] Other attractions/events
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. SHOPS AND BUSINESSES

How often do you use the shops and services in the centre of Wheathampstead?

- [  ] Every Day  
 [  ] 2-3 Times a week  
 [  ] Once a week  
 [  ] Less than once a week

Do you think that the shopping facilities in Wheathampstead are sufficient for a village with almost 3000 homes?

Yes  No  Don't know

When did you last shop in the village?

- [  ] Today  
 [  ] Yesterday  
 [  ] Last week

[  ] Last month

[  ] Longer ago

How much did you spend? £

When did you last shop outside the village?

[  ] Today

[  ] Yesterday

[  ] Last week

[  ] Last month

[  ] Longer ago

How much did you spend? £

Why do you choose to shop outside the village?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The Parish Council can have no direct influence, but it would provide invaluable guidance for District Council planners, who will use much of the data collected in this questionnaire, if you could indicate what shops and businesses you would like to see in the village centre?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you aware of the shops in Mill Walk (butcher, jeweller, gourmet foods)?

Yes  No

What proportion of your shopping and use of services do you do in Wheathampstead? \_\_\_\_\_%

What would make you increase the percentage of your shopping you do in Wheathampstead?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you visit the library in Wheathampstead?

Yes  No

If not, why not?

[  ] Opening times are not suitable

[  ] Wasn't aware of the library

[  ] Other

.....

How severely would the loss of a Post Office affect your household? (please circle 1 to 6)

Not at all Very

1      2      3      4      5      6

Please explain why

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**8. YOUNG PEOPLE**

**This section is to be answered only by people aged 18 or under, or by their parent or guardian.**

Concern has been expressed that Wheathampstead does not provide enough local facilities for young people and that it has never recovered from the loss of the Youth Club some years ago. The Parish Council are looking at possible youth facilities in the village and would appreciate your views on this.

Where in the village would you like to see a Hard Surface area for football, basketball and other ball games?

- Marford Playing Fields
- Butterfield Road Playing Fields
- Other

.....

Have you attended any of the Youth Activities in the village supported by the Parish Council?

Yes  No  Wasn't aware there were any

How do you think the play equipment in the village could be improved?

- More play areas
- Improved equipment for under 5s
- Improved equipment for teenagers
- 
- Other.....

Which youth activities would you like to see in Wheathampstead?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**9. HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONS**

To ensure our Village Plan represents the whole Wheathampstead community, please answer the following questions. If there are any questions that you would prefer not to answer, please leave them blank.

What is the total number of people in your household? \_\_\_\_\_

How many people are there in each age group in your household?

Under 5      \_\_\_\_\_      5-11      \_\_\_\_\_      12-18      \_\_\_\_\_  
 19-30      \_\_\_\_\_      31-45      \_\_\_\_\_      45-60      \_\_\_\_\_  
 61 and over      \_\_\_\_\_

How many people in your household work from home? \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you lived in Wheathampstead?

Less than 1 year            1-5yrs        
 6-10yrs            11-15yrs  
      
 15+ years     

What is the main reason you came to live in Wheathampstead?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How many cars are there in your household? \_\_\_\_

Which road do you live in? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your regular means of travel to work/school?

Bus            Car            Train        
 Cycle            Walk            Other     

If you would like us to email you a summary of the results of this survey, please enter your email address : \_\_\_\_\_