

# Please fill in the questionnaire

WE VALUE YOUR ADVICE  
& OPINIONS

ALVECHURCH PARISH



neighbourhood plan

[www.alvechurchparishplan.org](http://www.alvechurchparishplan.org)

0121 447 8016

Or Visit

Alvechurch Parish Council Office

Bear Hill Alvechurch

**You can return this later to the Parish  
Office or The Lounge if you wish**

Please look at the information and questions set out inside and on the following pages. Please give us your view about each question by going to page 6 on the back and ticking the box that best describes your view. Thank you

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## Questions and information relating to businesses and jobs

Alvechurch Parish is historically working villages, not just commuter settlements. How much do we want to encourage more business for local jobs, saving on journeys and keeping the village alive? The main options are:

### **1. We should encourage more business into the parish for greater local employment opportunities**

This means accepting that some sites are developed for businesses, traffic will have to be managed for these, and we do not see ourselves as just pretty commuter villages

### **2. We should give up some green belt and other sites for business, to increase the local jobs available**

This would mean that some land which could be used for housing is used for business instead. Shortage of land could mean some of this may be green belt.

### **3. We should have a business development plan for Alvechurch village with some pedestrianisation and road changes round the centre**

The retail and office areas in the centre of Alvechurch could be developed further, but need an overall plan to ensure it meets local needs. One option is to further pedestrianise the centre to attract shoppers, with adjustments to the roads to aid deliveries.

### **4. We should encourage small scale rural employment in small settlements, not just Alvechurch**

This means that we would encourage appropriate small businesses, suitable to rural areas, in Rowney Green, Hopwood, Bordesley and Withybed.

Please look at the information and questions set out below and on the following pages. Please give us your view about each question by going to page 6 at the back and ticking the box that best describes your view. Thank you

## Questions and information relating to the countryside environment

We have countryside of special landscape and wildlife value, but the environment doesn't look after itself. We have choices about how best to protect and develop it. The main options are:

### **1: We should manage the environment in the best way for wildlife as well as people**

This means we would prioritise positive countryside and woodland management that encouraged biodiversity and allowed plants, trees and animals to thrive. It may mean limiting some access, and accepting some untidiness!

### **2: We should improve public access to the countryside, including for people with limited mobility**

This means choosing some paths to be wheelchair (and pushchair)-accessible, replacing some stiles with gates, improving some surfaces, and looking at possible new paths. It may make parts of the country slightly less "wild".

**3: We should use the countryside productively, for farming, sports or tourism**  
**This means that more land should be economically viable;** either farmed for animals or crops, or made available for: sports, walking, cycling, boating, fishing and other suitable leisure activities. It would help keep the Parish thriving, but may be less good for wildlife.

### **4: We should use more green and environmental technologies, including energy conservation, within the parish**

This means using wind and solar power, underground heat sources, water saving, better insulation, cutting car use and other energy-heavy and polluting technologies, encouraging re-use and recycling (and cycling!) It may mean a rethink about what we value in the landscape.

Please look at the information and questions set out below and on the following pages. Please give us your view about each question by going to page 6 at the back and ticking the box that best describes your view. Thank you

## Questions and information relating to housing

Government and district council policies mean that we will have to build further houses in the Parish. We should get improved facilities to go with them. We have enough agreed sites for now, but in the long term may have to use some green belt land. We could control where and how this happens. The main options are:

**1: We should build first on existing agreed sites, and should accept long term growth on green belt only next to existing houses**

This would limit growth to places immediately adjacent to existing houses, thus protecting the green belt that keeps our settlements separate, and the best countryside.

**2: We should apportion any long term housing growth on green belt equally across the settlements**

This would mean every village/hamlet (Alvechurch, Hopwood, Rowney Green, Bordesley, Weatheroak, and Withybed Green) would have a proportional share of new housing, not concentrating it on Alvechurch.<sup>3</sup>

**3: We should release green belt land for long term need only round the edges of Alvechurch village**

This would mean that our smaller settlements had no further house building, apart from limited infilling but Alvechurch would take new developments, because it has better facilities.

**4: We should limit additional development if green belt land has to be used, to smaller less expensive housing, given that local proven need has been established**

This would mean we would only do so for the benefit of local people. This may have to include some market housing though to make the sites financially viable but the result would be in some affordable and social housing especially beneficial for the young and elderly.

Please look at the information and questions set out below. Please give us your view about each question by going to page 6 at the back and ticking the box that best describes your view. Thank you

## Questions and information relating to transport

Many people in the Parish say that problems with transport affect their lives. Most are outside the scope of the Parish Council, but we could press for changes, especially to accompany new developments. The main options are:

### **1. We should press for improved public transport through better co-ordination of all transport methods**

We have rail and bus services, but they do not connect, nor do they link well with cycling, walking and car use. Better siting of car parks, bus service changes, cycle parking and integrated timetables would help.

### **2. We should review car parking in Alvechurch village centre**

This implies that we may have parking in the wrong places or for the wrong lengths of time, as many cars are parked inappropriately. Any new developments will make this worse. A full review may encourage better parking.

### **3. We should have more cycle-ways and footways between settlements**

This would mean having dedicated cycle tracks, and more surfaced footpaths, between Rowney Green, Hopwood, Bordesley and Alvechurch, to reduce car use. In some places this would be straightforward; where the roads are narrow it could be costly

### **4. We should improve traffic management across the Parish**

This means reviewing: speed limits, traffic calming measures, roundabouts, one-way systems, no-parking zones, delivery bays, junction layouts, road markings for the benefit of residents, motorists, cyclists and pedestrians

PTO, and fill in the Questionnaire

Name ..... Post Code.....

Contact phone number / e-mail (Optional for providing feedback).....

**Business and jobs – please tick one box for each option**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion
1. We should encourage more business into the parish for greater local employment opportunities						
2. We should give up some green belt and other sites for business, to increase the local jobs available						
3. We should have a business development plan for Alvechurch village with some pedestrianisation and road changes round the centre						
4. We should encourage small scale rural employment in small settlements, not just Alvechurch						

**Countryside environment - please tick one box for each option**

1. We should manage the environment in the best way for wildlife as well as people						
2. We should improve public access to the countryside, for people with limited mobility						
3. We should use the countryside productively for farming, sport or tourism						
4. We should use more green and environmental technologies / energy / conservation						

**Housing - please tick one box for each option**

1. We should build first on existing agreed sites, and should accept long term growth on green belt only adjacent to current houses						
2. We should apportion any housing growth equally across the settlements on limited green belt						
3. We should release green belt land for future need mainly round the edges of Alvechurch village						
4. We should limit additional housing to small inexpensive houses if green belt has to be used						

**Transport - please tick one box for each option**

1 We should press for improved public transport through better co-ordination of all transport methods						
2 We should review car parking in Alvechurch village centre						
3. We should have more cycleways and footways between settlements						
4. We should improve traffic management across the Parish						

**When completed you can hand this in to the Parish Council Office or drop it back into The Lounge.**

**THANK YOU**