

INTRODUCTION



The Woodford Village Plan

Woodford is a village in East Northamptonshire, situated next to the River Nene, approximately three miles west of the market town of Thrapston.

Woodford is mentioned in the Domesday Book, has a number of historic buildings, and the Three Hills Tumuli thought to be Neolithic and dating from around 3,000 BC.

The village at present has about 650 houses and 1500 residents. Within the village there is a primary school, public house, sports and social club, shops, hairdressers, fish & chip shop, church, chapel, and a number of small businesses.

In 2012, in line with a national initiative, the Woodford Parish Council instigated a project to survey the villagers for their views on the village, its community, environment and facilities and how the village wanted these to develop. This work has been actively supported by East Northamptonshire Council who have made a very active contribution.

A Village Plan Group was established with approximately 20 Members and a survey was compiled in line with guidance from East Northamptonshire Council. There were 650 questionnaires distributed – 219 returned representing the views of 384 people. This is a very good response to a questionnaire of this type.



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The responses were analysed and five sub groups were established to draw up action plans to address the findings of the survey. A well attended open day to present the results of the survey was held in January 2014.

This document provides a high level overview of the key areas identified during the survey and the main recommendations for each area from the Village Plan Group.

There are a number of topics that have still to be addressed - including the business and youth surveys that have still to be completed.

It is envisaged that the next steps will be for the Woodford Parish Council to seek funding for the recommendations and drive these forward in conjunction with the relevant teams in Northamptonshire County Council and other relevant organisations.

It is proposed that a Project and Funding sub-committee be formed to oversee and coordinate overall progress and identify sources of funding.