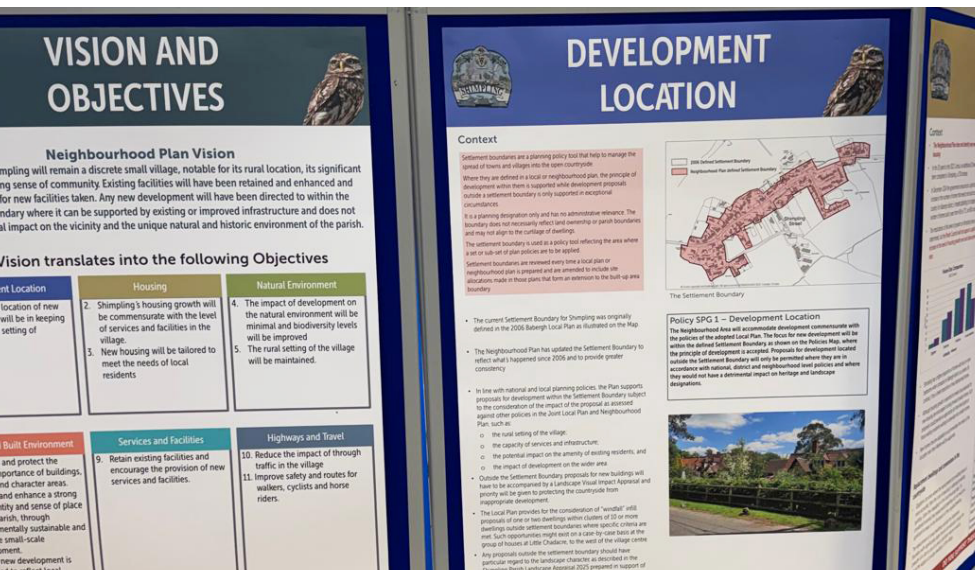


SHIMPLING

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2025-2037

Consultation Statement



SHIMPLING PARISH COUNCIL
May 2026

Prepared for Shimpling Parish Council by
Places4People Planning Consultancy
May 2026



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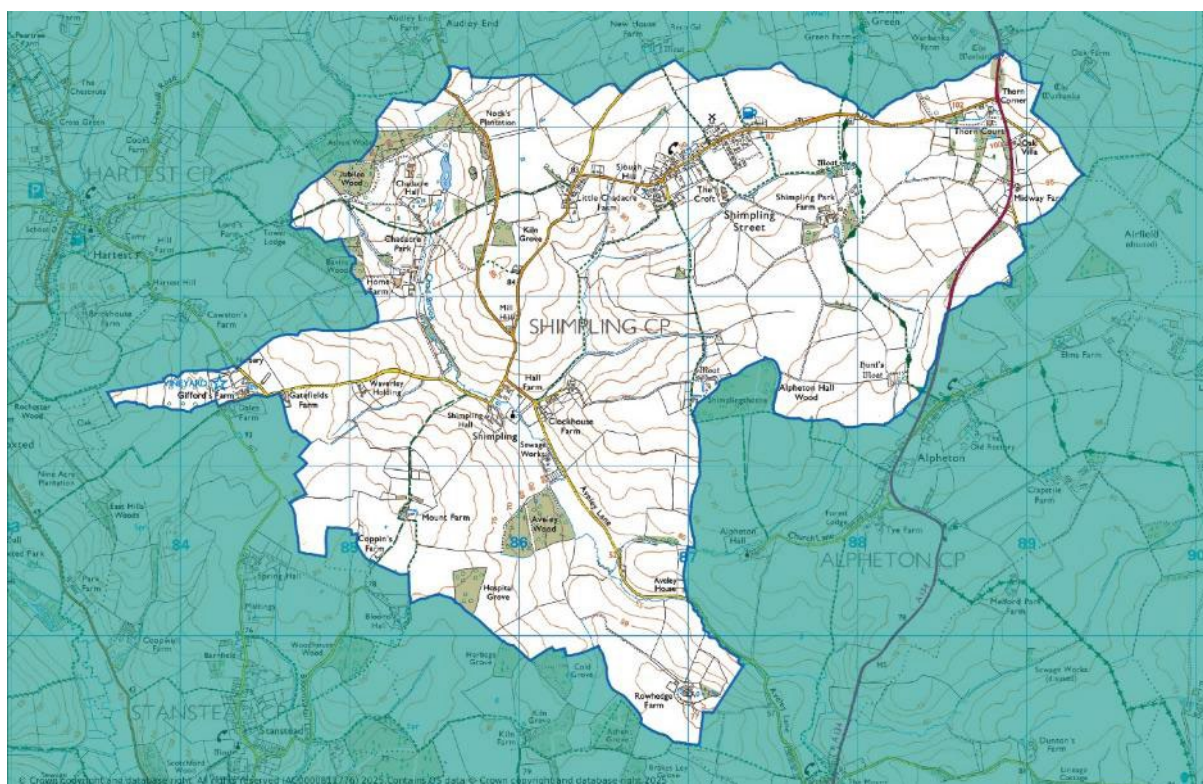
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This consultation statement has been prepared to fulfil the legal obligations of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 (as amended) in respect of the Shimpling Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.2 The legal basis of this Consultation Statement is provided by Section 15(2) of the 2012 Neighbourhood Planning Regulations, which requires that a consultation statement should:
- contain details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed neighbourhood development plan;
 - explain how they were consulted;
 - summarise the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted; and
 - describe how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant addressed in the proposed neighbourhood development plan.
- 1.3 The policies contained in the Neighbourhood Plan are the culmination of engagement and consultation with residents, businesses and landowners of Shimpling as well as other statutory bodies. This has included a household survey and consultation events at appropriate stages during the preparation of the Plan.

2. Background to the Preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan

- 2.1 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Government's Neighbourhood Planning Regulations and, in particular, has involved considerable local community engagement to gather evidence for the content of the plan and later inform the plan's direction and policies. The content of the Neighbourhood Plan has been generated and led by the community and shaped by results of surveys and drop-in events, to ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan reflects the aspirations of the community.
- 2.2 On 19 September 2023, Shimpling Parish Council submitted an application to define the neighbourhood plan area boundary, covering the whole parish as illustrated on **Map 1**. The Neighbourhood Area was designated by Babergh District Council on 6 October 2023. From that time a small group of volunteers, agreed by the Parish Council, managed the gathering of information to support the preparation of the Plan.



Map 1 - The Neighbourhood Plan Area

- 2.3 Soon after the designation of the Neighbourhood Area, a well-attended drop-in information event was held at the Village Hall which provided an opportunity to find out about neighbourhood plans and what it could mean for Shimpling.
- 2.4 In the ensuing months a range of evidence reports were prepared, taking advantage of the available financial and technical support offered at the time by the Government, namely:
- Shimpling Design Guidance and Codes (AECOM, July 2024)
 - Shimpling Parish Landscape Appraisal Character, Sensitivity and Key Views (Lucy Batchelor-Wylam CMLI, May 2025)
- 2.5 In late Summer 2024 a Residents' Survey was carried out which each household receiving a questionnaire that they could either complete and return or, alternatively, complete online. A total of 106 responses were received, and the results are published in a separate report published in support of the Plan.
- 2.6 The main headlines of the survey were:
- Strong opposition to large-scale development

- Protect Shimpling's rural character
- Infrastructure is seen as inadequate
- Mixed views on future housing
- Concern about solar farms and land use
- Speeding and road safety are recurring priorities
- Drainage and flooding need attention
- Community assets should be protected
- Residents value consultation and local voice

2.7 On 10 November 2025³ the Parish Council considered the draft and approved it for the purposes on Pre-Submission consultation in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended). That consultation and its outcomes form the focus of this Consultation Statement.

3. Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation

- 3.1 The statutory consultation commenced on 17 January 2026 and lasted for six weeks to 2 March (inclusive).

How we publicised the consultation

- 3.2 The consultation was publicised by a summary leaflet (reproduced in Appendix 1) that was distributed to every household and business in the parish. The leaflet summarised the main purpose and content of the Plan and ensured recipients were informed as to how the actual Plan could be viewed and how they could comment on it. The consultation was also launched with a well-attended drop-in event held at the Village Hall on 17 January, providing an opportunity for residents to view a paper copy of the Plan and ask questions. The display boards for the drop-in event are included as Appendix 2 of this Statement.
- 3.3 Hard copies of the Plan were made available to view at the drop-in event and to borrow from the Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group, as advised on the leaflet and on the neighbourhood plan pages of the Parish Council website. Both an online and paper comments form was produced, with paper copies of the form being available at the drop-in event and the Chair of the Working Group.
- 3.4 At the start of the consultation, all the statutory Regulation 14 consultees, as advised by Babergh District Council, were consulted. The full list of bodies consulted is shown in Appendix 3 and the email content used to notify them is included at Appendix 4.
- 3.5 Details of the responses received during the pre-submission consultation period are detailed later in this Consultation Statement.

4. Pre-Submission Consultation Responses

- 5.1 A total of 29 people or organisations responded to the Pre-Submission Consultation as listed below.

The following individuals or organisations submitted comments:

M Atkins	M Fahie-Wilson	J Schofield
G Bonson	E Keeling	N Schofield
A Burrows	C Mapus-Smith	G Singfield
P Byford	? Northcutt	C Squire
P Clover	L Rooke	P Vinson
D Dunkley	D Rowe	J Wall

Babergh District Council	Natural England
Environment Agency	Sport England
Historic England	Suffolk County Council
Ministry of Defence	Suffolk Wildlife Trust
National Gas	Water Management Alliance
National Highways	

Plus five anonymous responses

- 5.2 A summary of the responses to questions as to whether the individual policies, community aspirations and general content is illustrated in Appendix 5. A schedule of full comments, and the responses of the Parish Council to them, is set out in Appendix 6 of this Statement. As a result, the Submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan has been appropriately amended as identified in the "changes made to Plan" column of the Appendix. Further amendments were made to the Plan to bring it up-to-date and Appendix 7 provides a comprehensive list of all the modifications to the Pre-Submission Plan following consultation.

SHIMPLING NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Your chance to comment on the Draft Plan



Consultation Event

Village Hall

Saturday 17 January

**Drop-in anytime between
10.00 am and 1.00 pm**

**SHIMPLING
PARISH COUNCIL**

You may be aware that your Parish Council has been preparing a neighbourhood plan.

We've now reached a major milestone and are commencing consultation on the Draft Plan. Consultation commences on **Saturday 17 January** and will last until **Monday 2 March**, a period of 6 weeks. It's your chance to say whether or not you support the content of the Plan or would like to see some changes.

The final page of this leaflet explains how you can comment.

It is important that you use this opportunity to have your say, even if you're fully supportive of the Plan.

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

A neighbourhood plan is a community-led approach to guiding future development, regeneration and preservation of an area. The planning policies within them only apply to matters that require planning permission. There are certain rules and regulations that must be followed during their preparation, including carrying out this public consultation. Later, when the Plan is complete and has been assessed by an Independent Examiner, residents of the Parish that are on the Register of Electors will be given an opportunity to vote whether the Plan should be used by Babergh District Council and any future council when deciding planning applications in the parish.

The recently announced proposals to restructure local government in Suffolk will not make any difference to the future use of the Plan. It is prepared under separate regulations and has to be used by whatever body is in place that takes decisions on planning applications.

Our Neighbourhood Plan covers the following key themes:

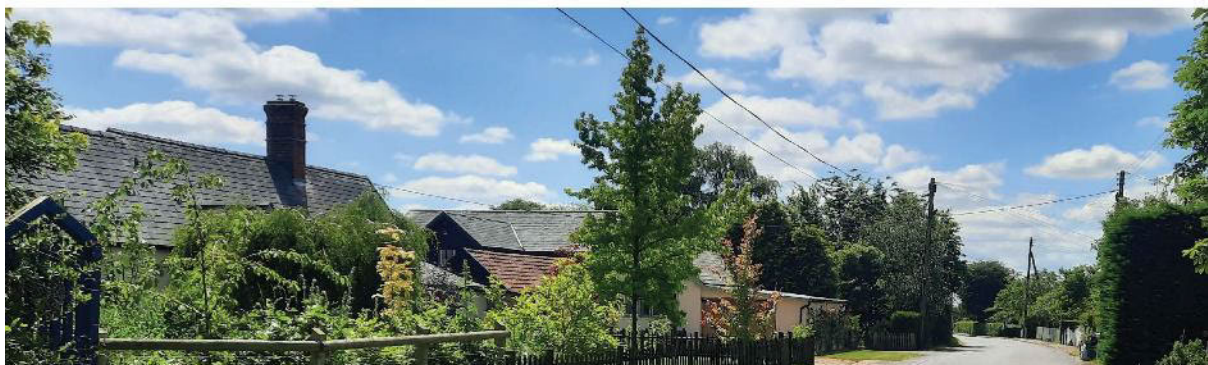


The draft Plan contains 17 planning policies. These will be used by Babergh District Council when deciding planning applications.

In addition, the Plan contains "community actions" addressing non-planning concerns that were raised when we surveyed residents in the Summer of 2024.

The Plan starts with a Vision:

In 2037 Shimpling will remain a discrete small village, notable for its rural location, its significant past and its strong sense of community. Existing facilities will have been retained and enhanced and opportunities for new facilities taken. Any new development will have been directed to within the Settlement Boundary where it can be supported by existing or improved infrastructure and does not have a detrimental impact on the vicinity and the unique natural and historic environment of the parish.



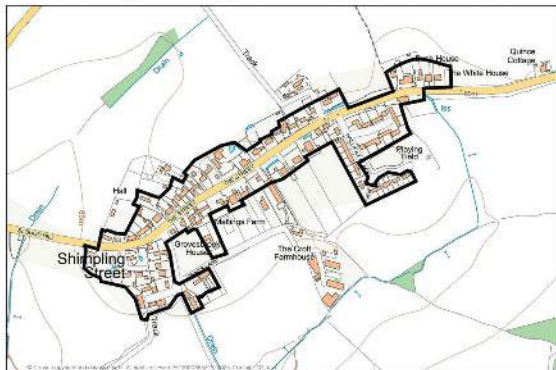
DEVELOPMENT LOCATIONS

The Plan does not allocate new sites for development. It updates the Settlement Boundary for the village (illustrated below) to take account of development that's taken place since it was last defined in 2006.

Settlement boundaries help contain development and prevent encroachment into the countryside.

Development within the Settlement Boundary is supported where it would not have a detrimental impact on the amenity of residents, the natural and historic environment, infrastructure and highways.

Outside the Settlement Boundary, priority will be given to protecting the countryside from inappropriate development.



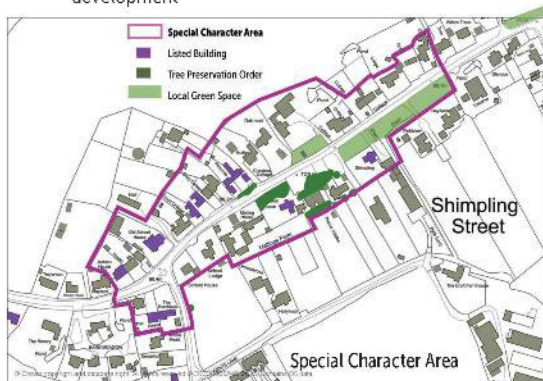
The Settlement Boundary

HISTORIC AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Design Guidance has been prepared which will be applied when the District Council considers planning applications to ensure that development:

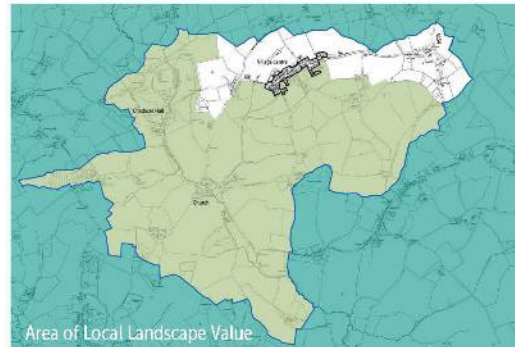
The Neighbourhood Plan:

- designates a "Special Character Area" along part of The Street in recognition of the distinct qualities of the areas. It means that planning applications in this area will need to take account of its distinct characteristics.
- provides a policy for the consideration of the design of new development.
- includes a policy to ensure that development does not contribute to surface water flooding.
- includes a policy to prevent light pollution arising from development



NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

We commissioned a Landscape Appraisal to support the Natural Environment policies in the Plan. It identified an "Area of Local Landscape Value" that covers much of the parish, as illustrated, and which is designated in the Plan to ensure that its character is maintained.



In addition, the Neighbourhood Plan:

- requires development to conserve the essential landscape, heritage and rural character of Shimpling
- identifies 12 important views across the parish that should be preserved
- promotes improvements to natural habitats and biodiversity
- designates four sites as Local Green Spaces, where development will only be allowed in exceptional circumstances
 1. Halifax Place Playing Field,
 2. Green between Shimpling Place and The Bush PH,
 3. Green at The Coalhouse, and
 4. Green between Shimpling House and Hayfields.

HOUSING

The Neighbourhood Plan supports the development of new housing on infill plots within the Settlement Boundary. Such sites should:

- front onto an existing highway,
- not result in development in back gardens,
- not have a detrimental impact on the built and natural character of the surrounding area,
- not be detrimental to the amenity of residents, and
- not be detrimental to infrastructure, including highways.

Our Residents Survey identified a need for smaller homes and the Plan supports building 2 and 3 bedroom homes suitable to meet the needs of first time buyers as well as the needs of an ageing population looking to downsize.

The Plan enables the development of a small affordable housing scheme for local people if a need can be demonstrated.

The Plan also seeks to limit the replacement of small isolated homes in the countryside with much larger homes.



SERVICES & FACILITIES

The Plan seeks to prevent services and facilities from being lost, including the following

- The Bush Public House,
- the Village Hall,
- the playing fields and
- the parish church of St George



HIGHWAYS & TRAVEL

Most highway improvements do not require planning permission. We know that the number of cars per household is high in the Parish and have raised the minimum number of parking spaces in new homes to ensure that cars can be accommodated within the plot.

The extensive network of public rights of way are well used and the Plan seeks to protect them from being lost due to development.



HOW TO COMMENT

The full version of the Plan will be available to download from Saturday 17 January, at <https://shimpling-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan-2> or scan the QR code from a mobile device where an online comments form will also be available to complete.



If you don't have access to the internet, paper copies will be available to view at the event on 17 January.

You can also request to borrow a copy of the Plan by contacting Claire by Whatsapp/Text on 07976 817593 or email clairehdh@gmail.com

Drop-in Event

We'll be at the Village Hall on 17 January. Drop in any time between 10.00am and 1.00pm and find out more about the Plan and view information boards.

How to comment

During the consultation period the Neighbourhood Plan website will have an online comments form which you can complete.

You can also collect a paper response form at the Drop-in Event or from the contact listed above.

The forms explain how you can submit them.

We want your comments, even if you support everything in the Plan.

**COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MONDAY 2 MARCH
WE CANNOT ACCEPT COMMENTS AFTER THIS TIME**

Published by Shimpling Parish Council with the support of Places4People Planning Consultancy



WELCOME



The story so far:

- The Parish Council has been preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish.
- We have now reached a major milestone and are commencing consultation on the Draft Plan.
- Consultation lasts until **Monday 2 March**, a period of 6 weeks.
- This exhibition provides a brief summary of the Plan, illustrating the planning policies and proposed community aspiration that are contained in the Plan.

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

It is a planning document designed to allow local people to play an active part in planning the future of their area.

When complete, the Plan will form part of the statutory “development plan” for the area, meaning Babergh District Council and Planning Inspectors will have to take note of what it says when considering planning applications.

The Neighbourhood Plan sits alongside national and local planning policies when decisions are made on planning applications



Over the next 6 weeks you have an opportunity to read the Plan and submit your comments.



WE NEED YOUR VIEWS BY MONDAY 2 MARCH

Why not comment as you go round by accessing the comments form from your mobile phone using the QR code?



PLAN PREPARATION PROCESS



There are several stages that must be completed, as illustrated. These stages are governed by the regulations for preparing neighbourhood plans and so there is no short cut.





NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS...



Frequently Asked Questions

What can a neighbourhood plan cover?

Although Plans have to focus on planning matters (things that need planning permission) they can include non-planning topics to address areas of concern or ambitions of the community.

How are they used?

When a planning application is decided, the District Council starts with looking at what the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan says about how proposals should be considered.

Likewise, if a planning application is refused and the applicant appeals the decision, Government Planning Inspectors must take the same approach

What about the current proposals to reorganise local government in Suffolk

Neighbourhood and Local Plans are prepared outside the structure of local government. Regardless of what happens with the District Council, the new authority will have to use the Neighbourhood Plan when making decisions on planning applications.

What if we don't prepare a Plan?

Planning decisions will continue to be made by the District Council without having locally based evidence and policies to inform the decision.

For example, they do not have locally specific design guidance for new development or identified important views that could be harmed by development.

Who else has prepared a Neighbourhood Plan?

Locally, Neighbourhood Plans have been, or are being, prepared in the following settlements:

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| • Lawshall | • Acton |
| • Hartest | • Great Waldingfield |
| • Lavenham | • Little Waldingfield |
| • Hadleigh | • Glemsford |
| • Long Melford | • Stanstead |





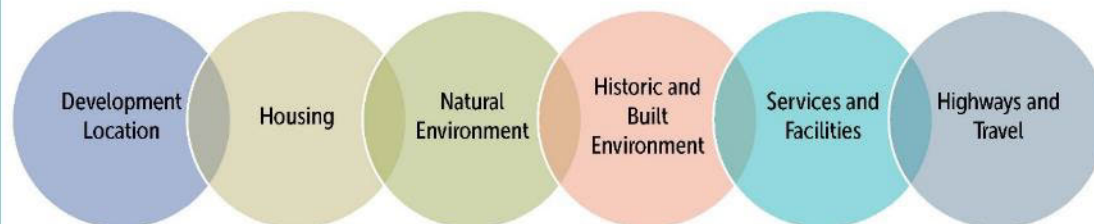
THE PLAN



Plan Contents

The Plan itself runs to 68 pages and is necessarily quite complex in places. This is because it will be used by the District Council and Government Planning Inspectors to decide whether planning applications should be approved.

Based on the issues identified during the initial stages of preparing the Neighbourhood Plan, the following themes have been identified.



The Plan contains:

Planning Policies

These will be used to supplement the Local Plan when decisions on planning applications are made.

Planning policies can only cover matters that would require planning permission, so they can't, for example, tackle speeding.

Policies Maps

These illustrate areas of land or buildings where policies in the Plan apply.

Community Actions

Local initiatives to address non-planning matters and concerns, primarily raised in the Residents' Survey.



Neighbourhood Plans cannot contradict the main government planning policies or the strategic policies in the Local Plan for the area.

For example, they cannot propose less development than is planned in the Local Plan.



VISION AND OBJECTIVES



Neighbourhood Plan Vision

In 2037 Shimpling will remain a discrete small village, notable for its rural location, its significant past and its strong sense of community. Existing facilities will have been retained and enhanced and opportunities for new facilities taken. Any new development will have been directed to within the Settlement Boundary where it can be supported by existing or improved infrastructure and does not have a detrimental impact on the vicinity and the unique natural and historic environment of the parish.

The Vision translates into the following Objectives

Development Location	Housing	Natural Environment
1. The scale and location of new development will be in keeping with the rural setting of Shimpling.	2. Shimpling's housing growth will be commensurate with the level of services and facilities in the village. 3. New housing will be tailored to meet the needs of local residents	4. The impact of development on the natural environment will be minimal and biodiversity levels will be improved 5. The rural setting of the village will be maintained.
Historic and Built Environment	Services and Facilities	Highways and Travel
6. Recognise and protect the historic importance of buildings, features and character areas. 7. Maintain and enhance a strong rural identity and sense of place for the parish, through environmentally sustainable and sensitive small-scale development. 8. Ensure new development is designed to reflect local character and incorporates measures that reduces environmental impact.	9. Retain existing facilities and encourage the provision of new services and facilities.	10. Reduce the impact of through traffic in the village 11. Improve safety and routes for walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE VISION AND OBJECTIVES?



DEVELOPMENT LOCATION



Context

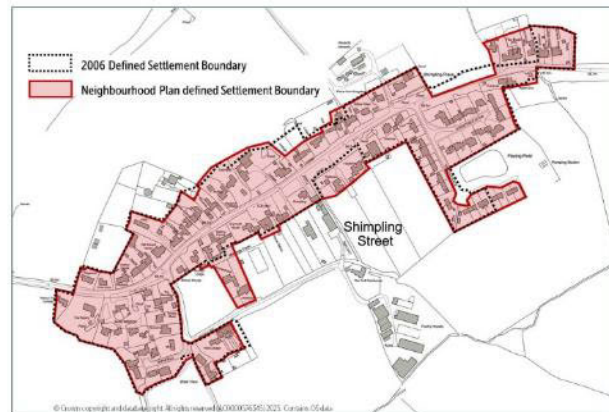
Settlement boundaries are a planning policy tool that help to manage the spread of towns and villages into the open countryside.

Where they are defined in a local or neighbourhood plan, the principle of development within them is supported while development proposals outside a settlement boundary are only supported in exceptional circumstances.

It is a planning designation only and has no administrative relevance. The boundary does not necessarily reflect land ownership or parish boundaries and may not align to the curtilage of dwellings.

The settlement boundary is used as a policy tool reflecting the area where a set or sub-set of plan policies are to be applied.

Settlement boundaries are reviewed every time a local plan or neighbourhood plan is prepared and are amended to include site allocations made in those plans that form an extension to the built-up area boundary.



The Settlement Boundary

- The current Settlement Boundary for Shimpling was originally defined in the 2006 Babergh Local Plan as illustrated on the Map.
- The Neighbourhood Plan has updated the Settlement Boundary to reflect what's happened since 2006 and to provide greater consistency
- In line with national and local planning policies, the Plan supports proposals for development within the Settlement Boundary subject to the consideration of the impact of the proposal as assessed against other policies in the Joint Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan, such as:
 - the rural setting of the village;
 - the capacity of services and infrastructure;
 - the potential impact on the amenity of existing residents; and
 - the impact of development on the wider area.
- Outside the Settlement Boundary, proposals for new buildings will have to be accompanied by a Landscape Visual Impact Appraisal and priority will be given to protecting the countryside from inappropriate development.
- The Local Plan provides for the consideration of "windfall" infill proposals of one or two dwellings within clusters of 10 or more dwellings outside settlement boundaries where specific criteria are met. Such opportunities might exist on a case-by-case basis at the group of houses at Little Chadacre, to the west of the village centre.
- Any proposals outside the settlement boundary should have particular regard to the landscape character, as described in the Shimpling Parish Landscape Appraisal 2025 prepared in support of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Policy SPG 1 – Development Location

The Neighbourhood Area will accommodate development commensurate with the policies of the adopted Local Plan. The focus for new development will be within the defined Settlement Boundary, as shown on the Policies Map, where the principle of development is accepted. Proposals for development located outside the Settlement Boundary will only be permitted where they are in accordance with national, district and neighbourhood level policies and where they would not have a detrimental impact on heritage and landscape designations.



DO YOU SUPPORT THE POLICY?



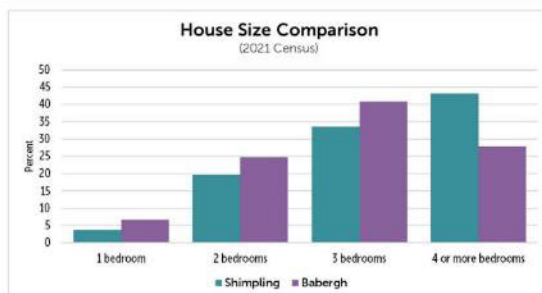


HOUSING



Context

- **The Neighbourhood Plan does not identify any new sites for housing**
- In the 20 years to the 2021 Census, an additional 29 dwellings had been completed in Shimpling, a 17% increase.
- In December 2024 the government announced a significant increase in the number of homes that need to be built across the country. For Babergh district, it means planning to increase the number of homes built a year from 416 to 775, an 86% increase.
- The implications of this level of growth on Shimpling have yet to be determined, but **the Parish Council will not support a significant increase in the level of housing growth over and above previous rates.**



- Shimpling has a higher proportion of homes with four or more bedrooms when compared to Babergh district as a whole. By contrast, it has a lower proportion of two bedroomed homes.
- Although housing growth is expected to remain low, proposals for new housing are encouraged to bring forward smaller homes. Such proposals could provide an opportunity for first-time buyers or those existing residents wishing to downsize into smaller homes.
- New homes that are adaptable to accommodate the needs of the occupier over their lifetime will be supported.

Replacement dwellings and conversions in the countryside

- Situations can arise where the replacement of an existing house is more economic than the cost of repairing or altering an existing building. Given the imbalance in the local housing sizes, it is considered essential that replacement dwellings do not result in a significant increase in the floorspace of the original dwelling.
- The replacement of small dwellings outside the Settlement Boundary with significantly larger houses can radically change the character of a site to one of a more suburban nature as well as reduce the supply of smaller dwellings in the village.

Policy SPG 2 – Housing Development

Within the Settlement Boundary, as defined on the Policies Map, there is a general presumption in favour of housing development comprising small infill dwellings, where proposals:

- are within an existing frontage;
- would not result in backland development; and
- would not have a detrimental impact on the built and natural character of the site and its surroundings, the amenity of residents and infrastructure, including highways.

Policy SPG 3 – Housing Mix

Housing development must contribute to meeting the existing and future needs of the Neighbourhood Area. Planning proposals will be supported where development provides 2 and 3 bedroom dwellings suitable to meet the needs of first time buyers as well as the needs of an ageing population looking to downsize into homes suitable for lifetime occupation. Where development is proposed on large plots, proposals that deliver two small dwellings rather than one larger dwelling will be supported.

See next board for Policy SPG 4

Policy SPG 5 – Replacement Dwellings and Conversions outside the Settlement Boundary

Proposals for the replacement of existing dwellings outside the defined Settlement Boundary will be permitted where:

- the original dwelling has a lawful permanent residential use.
- the replacement dwelling would not have a more harmful impact, or be more intrusive in the landscape, or countryside setting, or on heritage assets and their settings, than the original dwelling, by virtue of its siting, scale, height, character and design and uses materials to achieve a high standard of design in response to the context;
- the replacement dwelling is positioned on or close to the footprint of the existing dwelling, unless design, landscape, highway safety, residential amenity or other environmental grounds indicate that a more appropriate location on the plot can be justified;
- the size of the replacement dwelling is not significantly larger than the original dwelling, irrespective of any outbuildings demolished on the site, and is appropriate to the countryside setting; and
- the site has or is capable of having a safe and suitable access and the provision of parking spaces will meet adopted standards; and
- the development includes an acceptable landscape scheme to retain and improve the rural nature of the locality.

Applications for a replacement dwelling outside the Settlement Boundary would be expected to provide a detailed analysis of the visual impacts of the new dwelling on the landscape or countryside setting.

Proposals for conversion of buildings to residential must demonstrate the structure is capable of accommodating the use and the development would reuse redundant or disused buildings and enhance its immediate setting.

Increases in plot size to form additional garden, parking or amenity land will not be permitted.

DO YOU SUPPORT THESE POLICIES?



HOUSING



Affordable Housing

- Government affordability figures indicate that, in Babergh, average house prices are more than 10 times the average household income.
- It means many newly-formed households are excluded from the housing market.
- The Local Plan requires the provision of 35% of housing on development sites of 10 homes or more to be affordable, but such opportunities are unlikely to arise in Shimpling.
- One mechanism for meeting locally identified housing needs is through "exception sites" located outside but adjoining Settlement Boundaries where housing would not normally be permitted.
- To deliver affordable housing through the "exception sites" approach, the following would be required:
 - A need is established;
 - A willing landowner prepared to sell land at a price significantly below the market value for housing land; and
 - A registered social landlord (housing association/ registered provider) or a community-led development organisation such as a Community Land Trust willing to work with the Parish Council and District Council to fund and manage a scheme.

Policy SPG 4 - Affordable Housing on Exception Sites

Proposals for the development of small-scale affordable housing schemes, including community led developments (as defined by the NPPF) on exception sites outside but well connected to the settlement boundary, where housing would not normally be permitted by other policies, will be supported where there is a proven local need and provided that the housing:

- remains affordable in perpetuity; and
- is for people that are in housing need because they are unable to buy or rent properties in the village at open market prices; and
- is offered, in the first instance, to people with a demonstrated local connection, as defined by the Babergh District Council Choice Based Lettings Scheme. Where a property cannot be filled from within the Parish, it should then be offered to those with a demonstrated need for affordable housing in neighbouring villages and thereafter to the rest of Babergh District

These restrictions should be delivered through a legal agreement attached to the planning consent for the housing.

Applications for such development will be considered in relation to the appearance and character of the surrounding area, the potential impact on residential amenity and highway safety.

To be acceptable, proposals should demonstrate that a local need exists which cannot otherwise be met by applying normal planning policy for the provision of affordable homes in association with market housing.

Any application for affordable housing in respect of this policy should be accompanied by a detailed need assessment, and the accommodation proposed should contribute to meeting this proven need.

In exceptional circumstances, a small number of market homes will be permitted where it can be demonstrated:

- that no other means of funding the construction of the affordable homes is available; and
- the market housing is subsidiary to the affordable housing element of the proposal and the amount of market housing required is, as demonstrated through a viability assessment, the minimum required to deliver the affordable housing.

Where sites for affordable housing in the countryside are brought forward with an element of market housing, both housing tenures should be built to the same design standards and contribute towards the character of the area.



DO YOU SUPPORT THE POLICY?





NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



Context

- There are two Sites of Special Scientific (SSSI) Interest wholly within the parish, Aveley Wood and Hospital Grove and two additional sites which cross the parish boundary, namely Frithy and Chadacre Woods SSSI and Bavins and Ashen Wood. In addition, there are a number of "priority habitats" defined as specific, threatened ecosystems which are crucial for biodiversity.
- National planning policy requires planning policies to conserve and enhance the natural environment, whether this be designated sites or more generally recognition of the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside.
- New national regulations now require specified developments to provide a 10% net gain in biodiversity on sites.

Landscape

- The Parish Council commissioned a Landscape Appraisal to support the Plan.
- It identified distinct landscape "character areas" across the parish.
- The Plan seeks to conserve and enhance the landscape character of the parish.

Area of Local Landscape Value

- Much of the parish has previously been designated as a "Special Landscape Area" in previous planning policy documents but this was removed from the most recent local plan due to changes in national planning policy.
- The Landscape Appraisal reviewed the landscape quality in detail and proposes the designation of an "Area of Local Landscape Value" as illustrated on the map.
- Any proposals in the area will have to harmonise with the landscape and protect or enhance the special landscape qualities of the area.

Important Views

- The nature of the landscape is such that there are opportunities for extensive views from many publicly accessible points.
- The Landscape Appraisal reviewed views put forward by residents in the household survey and defines the most significant, as illustrated on the map.

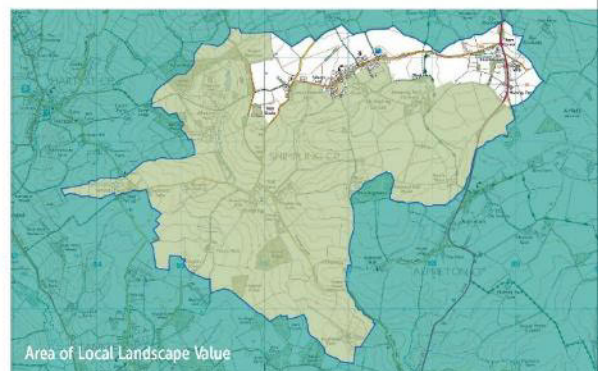


Policy SPG 6 - Protecting Landscape Character

To conserve the essential landscape, heritage and rural character of the Neighbourhood Plan Area, development proposals shall, proportionate to the proposal demonstrate:

- how the landscape characteristics of the site and its vicinity have informed the design of the proposal; and
- how the proposal has regard to, conserves and enhances, the rural and landscape character and the setting of the built-up areas of the parish, having regard to the Shimpling Parish Landscape Appraisal (2025) and the Joint Babergh and Mid Suffolk Landscape Guidance (2015) or any successor documents.

Proposals for new buildings outside the Settlement Boundaries will be required to be accompanied by a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, or other appropriate and proportionate evidence, that demonstrates how the proposal can be accommodated in the countryside without having a significant adverse impact, by reason of the buildings scale, materials and location, on the character and appearance of the countryside and its distinction from the built-up area.



Policy SPG 7 – Area of Local Landscape Value

Development proposals in the Shimpling Area of Local Landscape Value, as identified on the Policies Map, will be permitted only where they:

- protect or enhance the special landscape qualities of the area, identified in the Landscape Character Assessment; and
- are designed and sited so as to harmonise with the landscape setting.

Policy SPG 8 - Important Views

Important views from public vantage points, either within the built-up area or into or out of the surrounding countryside, are identified on the Policies Map. Any proposed development should not have a detrimental visual impact on the key landscape and built development features of those views as identified in the Shimpling Parish Landscape Appraisal (2025).

Proposals for new buildings outside the Settlement Boundaries will be required to be accompanied by a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment or other appropriate and proportionate evidence that demonstrates how the proposal can be accommodated without having a significant adverse impact, by reason of the buildings scale, materials and location, on the key features of the views.

DO YOU SUPPORT THESE POLICIES?



NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



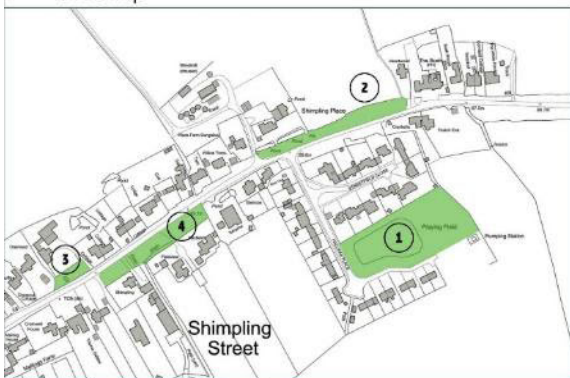
Biodiversity

- In addition to the national requirements for 10% biodiversity net gain to be provided by qualifying developments, there are other relatively small features that can often achieve important benefits for wildlife.
- New development will be encouraged to incorporate 'swift bricks', bat boxes and safe routes for hedgehogs where feasible.
- It was clear from the household survey that residents support the improvement of habitats and wildlife and the Parish Council will seek to work with farmers to achieve this.



Green Spaces

- National planning policy enables the designation and protection of land of particular importance to local communities as Local Green Spaces ('LGS') in neighbourhood plans.
- Such designations rule out new development other than in very special circumstances.
- The Plan identifies four sites that meet the national criteria, as illustrated on the map.



Policy SPG 9 – Biodiversity and Habitats

Development proposals should avoid the loss of, or significant harm to, priority habitats.

Where such losses or harm are unavoidable, adequate mitigation measures or, as a last resort, compensation measures will be sought. If suitable mitigation or compensation measures cannot be provided, then planning permission should be refused.

Where new access is created, or an existing access is widened through an existing hedgerow a new hedgerow of native species shall be planted on the splay returns into the site to maintain the appearance and continuity of hedgerows in the vicinity.

Otherwise acceptable development proposals will only be supported where they provide a measurable net gain in biodiversity through, for example:

- the creation of new natural habitats including ponds, hedgerows and natural boundary treatments;
- the planting of additional native trees and hedgerows of local provenance (reflecting the character of Baylham's ancient woodland and hedgerows); and
- restoring and repairing fragmented biodiversity networks.

In addition to the statutory requirements, development will be supported where it incorporates provision within dwellings for measures including swift bricks, bat boxes and holes in fences which allow access for hedgehogs.

Community Action 1 - Improving Wildlife

The Parish Council will seek to work with farmers in their work to improve wildlife habitats and biodiversity.

Policy SPG 10 – Local Green Spaces

The following Local Green Spaces are designated in this Plan and identified on the Policies Map:

- Hallifax Place Playing Field,
- Green between Shimpling Place and The Bush PH,
- Green at The Coalhouse, and
- Green between Shimpling House and Hayfields.

Community Action 2 – Maintaining Public Spaces

The Parish Council will seek to ensure any "public spaces" are well maintained and enhanced where possible (e.g. installation of benches, planting native wildflowers and trees, if appropriate).



DO YOU SUPPORT THESE POLICIES AND COMMUNITY ACTIONS?



HISTORIC AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT



Context

- Shimpling developed around some of the medieval manors, such as Chadacre Hall, Shimplingthorn, and Shimpling and Gifford's Halls. This has resulted in a dispersed settlement pattern. The church and hall at Shimpling Hall were two of the earliest buildings and these remain today. There are 21 listed buildings in the parish, most of which are clustered along The Street.

Special Character Area

- Although there is no designated conservation area, the area along The Street west of Shimpling Place contains a high concentration of listed buildings plus some trees protected by preservation orders and two Local Green Spaces.
- In the light of these special qualities, the Neighbourhood Plan designates the areas, as identified on the map, as a Special Character Area.
- The designation does not have a statutory status but development proposals that do not take account of the built and natural qualities of this area could have a significant wider impact on its character and will not be supported.



The Coal House

- Several respondents to the survey noted that they would like to see the Grade 2 listed Coal House better maintained and perhaps put to a good use for the village. However, it is privately owned and therefore maintenance/use is up to that individual.

Community Action 3 – The Coal House

The Parish Council will seek to encourage the owner of the Coal House to improve its condition and ongoing maintenance.

Policy SPG 11 – Special Character Area

A Special Character Area is identified on the Policies Map. Within the Special Character Area, as well as having regard to the need to preserve or enhance the significance of the heritage assets in or adjoining the area, development proposals should respond positively to the distinctive characteristics of the identified area as illustrated on Map 9.

Development proposals which would cause unacceptable harm to the character and appearance of the Special Character Area will not be supported.

Development Design

- The design and construction of any new development can, if not considered carefully, have a significant detrimental impact on the environment, the amenity of existing residents and the local infrastructure. Although planning policies do not support the construction of significant additional development in Little Bealings, even one new dwelling or the inconsiderate design of an extension needs to be afforded careful consideration in terms of location and design.
- As part of the Government's Neighbourhood Planning support programme, AECOM were commissioned to prepare Design Guidance and Codes for the Neighbourhood Plan Area on behalf of the Parish Council.
- The Guidance sets out specific parameters that new development should take into account.

General Design Guidelines

- Integrate with existing paths, streets, circulation networks and patterns of activity;
- Reinforce or enhance the established settlement character of streets, greens, and other spaces;
- Harmonise and enhance existing settlement in terms of physical form, architecture and land use;
- Relate well to local topography and landscape features, including prominent ridge lines and long-distance views;
- Reflect, respect, and reinforce local architecture and historic distinctiveness;
- Retain and incorporate important existing features into the development;
- Respect surrounding buildings in terms of scale, height, form and massing;
- Adopt contextually appropriate materials and details;
- Provide adequate open space for the development in terms of both quantity and quality;
- Incorporate necessary services and drainage infrastructure without causing unacceptable harm to retained features;
- Ensure all components e.g. buildings, landscapes, access routes, parking and open space are well related to each other;
- Positively integrate energy efficient technologies;
- Make sufficient provision for sustainable waste management (including facilities for kerbside collection, waste separation, and minimisation where appropriate) without adverse impact on the street scene, the local landscape or the amenities of neighbours;
- Ensure that places are designed with management, maintenance and the upkeep of utilities in mind; and
- Seek to implement passive environmental design principles by, firstly, considering how the site layout can optimise beneficial solar gain and reduce energy demands (e.g. insulation), before specification of energy efficient building services and finally incorporate renewable energy sources.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE POLICY AND COMMUNITY ACTION?



HISTORIC AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT



Policy SPG 12 – Design Considerations

Proposals for new development must reflect the local characteristics in the Neighbourhood Plan Area and create and contribute to a high quality, safe and sustainable environment.

Planning applications should demonstrate how they satisfy the requirements of the General Design Guidance in Appendix 6 and the Development Design Checklist in Appendix 7 of the Neighbourhood Plan, as appropriate to the proposal.

In addition, proposals will be supported where they:

- recognise and address the key features, characteristics, landscape/building character and form, local distinctiveness and special qualities of the area in order to maintain the rural feel of the parish;
- do not involve the loss of gardens, open, green or landscaped areas, which make a significant contribution to the character and appearance of that part of the parish;



- reflect the character and nature of the village by:
 - ensuring plots depths and arrangement of the building on the plot complement existing development;
 - include boundary treatments that reflect the character and materials of the local vicinity;
 - roof height and form does not conflict with those in the locality of the site;
 - use of contextually appropriate materials and architectural features to enhance the details of the proposal to reflect, respect, and reinforce local architecture and historic distinctiveness;
 - respect surrounding buildings in terms of scale, height, form and massing;
- taking mitigation measures into account, do not affect adversely:
 - any historic, architectural or archaeological heritage assets of the site and its surroundings;
 - important landscape characteristics including trees and ancient hedgerows and other prominent topographical features;
- where appropriate to the nature of the development, make adequate provision for the covered storage of all wheelie bins;
- include suitable ducting capable of accepting fibre to enable ultrafast broadband;
- include secure and covered cycle parking provision in accordance with the Suffolk Parking Guidelines.

Flooding

- There are few properties in the parish at risk of flooding from watercourses, although Chad Brook runs close to the parish church and adjacent to Aveley Lane, putting both in or adjoining Flood Zones 2 and 3, where 3 has the highest risk of flooding.
- Elsewhere across the parish there are areas at risk of surface water flooding, but these are primarily away from the main built-up areas.
- National and Local Plan policies provide a comprehensive framework for limiting development in flood zones and the implementation of measures to manage surface water run-off including requirements for Sustainable Drainage Systems.
- Overgrown ditches can contribute significantly to surface water flooding during times of intense rainstorms. The Parish Council will seek to work with landowners to ensure ditches are maintained.

Community Action 4 – Drains and Ditches

The Parish Council will continue to try and identify who owns/is responsible for maintaining drains/ditches.

Light Pollution

- The installation of floodlighting and security lights on sites can, without careful consideration have a significant detrimental impact on the wider area.
- Domestic outdoor security lighting does not usually require planning consent, but where lighting forms an element of a development it should be designed in such a manner that will not create light pollution or have detrimental impact on highways and the amenity of residents.

**DO YOU SUPPORT THE POLICY AND
COMMUNITY ACTIONS?**

Policy SPG 13 – Flooding and Sustainable Drainage

Proposals for all new development will be required to submit schemes appropriate to the scale of the proposal detailing how on-site drainage and water resources will be managed so as not to cause or exacerbate surface water and fluvial flooding elsewhere. Proposals should, as appropriate, include the use of above-ground open Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS). These could include:

- wetland and other water features, which can help reduce flood risk whilst offering other benefits including water quality, amenity/recreational areas, and biodiversity benefits; and
- rainwater and stormwater harvesting and recycling; and
- other natural drainage systems where easily-accessible maintenance can be achieved.

Proposals that would involve the creation of new culverts or result in the loss of an open watercourse will not be permitted, unless the culvert is essential to the provision of an access and it can be demonstrated that the culvert will have no adverse impact on the ability to manage and maintain surface water drainage.

Policy SPG 14 – Minimising Light Pollution

While ensuring that new developments are secure in terms of occupier and vehicle safety, dark skies are to be preferred over lighting. Any future outdoor lighting systems should have a minimum impact on the environment, minimising light pollution and adverse effects on wildlife, subject to highway safety, the needs of particular individuals or groups, and security of individuals and premises.

Proposals for lighting schemes should be supported by a lighting study and be designed to reduce the consumption of energy by promoting efficient outdoor lighting technologies, keeping the night-time skies dark, reducing glare and be of a frequency (spectrum) of illumination to reduce wildlife impact.

The lighting should only be operational during times when it is essential for the operation of the business and out of operational hours security trigger lighting should be installed.



SERVICES AND FACILITIES



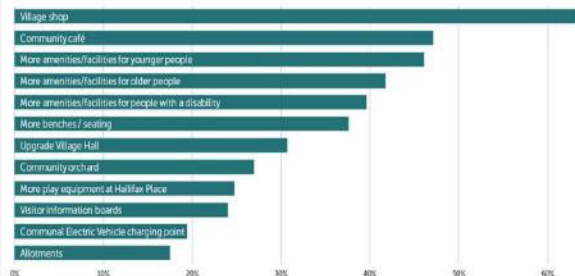
Services & Facilities

- Shimpling does not have a large range of facilities and services, perhaps reflective of the remote nature of the village, but also due to the size of the population available to support such services. Currently, the Parish has:
 - The village hall;
 - The Bush public house;
 - The playing fields (also protected as a Local Green Space); and
 - The parish church of St George.
- The residents' survey returned the following key headlines from those that responded:
 - 93%** valued or highly valued the Village Hall
 - 85%** valued or highly valued the Parish Church
 - 83%** valued or highly valued the playground and playing field
- It also highlighted that the playground is not used by a large proportion of the population, despite 83% of respondents either highly valued or valued it.
- In terms of additional facilities and amenities:
 - 63%** of respondents stated a village shop was important, followed by
 - 47%** a community café, and
 - 46%** more amenities / facilities for younger people
- The Neighbourhood Plan has an important role in making sure that village services and facilities are retained and only lost in exceptional circumstances.
- Despite a high percentage highly valuing or valuing the Village Hall there are very few people who attend any activities at the Village Hall and "never" was the highest percentage.
- It is important that all in the community are able to access information about the village and its events.
- Many see dog fouling/litter as "an issue" rather than serious issue. Unfortunately there is no way to stop people travelling through the village throwing rubbish out of their car windows but if the residents make the effort to keep the village clean & tidy it will hopefully discourage others from littering.



DO YOU SUPPORT THIS POLICY AND COMMUNITY ACTIONS?

Percent stating potential initiatives are important



Residents' Survey opinions on potential initiatives

Policy SPG 15 – Village Services and Facilities

The provision and enhancement of community facilities and services that serve the needs of Shimpling will be supported where they are in accessible locations, contribute to the quality of village life and improve the sustainability of the village.

Proposals that would result in the loss of valued facilities or services which support the local community (or premises last used for such purposes) including The Bush Public House, the Village Hall, the playing fields and the parish church of St George, as identified on the Policies Map, will only be permitted where:

- it can be demonstrated that the current use is not economically viable and is not likely to become viable. Supporting financial evidence should be provided including any efforts to advertise the premises for sale for a minimum of 6 months; and
- it can be demonstrated, through evidenced research, that there is no local demand for the use and that the building/site is not needed for any alternative social, community or leisure use; or
- alternative facilities and services are available, or replacement provision is made, of at least equivalent standard, in a location that is accessible to the community it serves with good access by public transport or by cycling or walking.

Community Action 5 – Community Groups

The Parish Council will support the establishment of separate working parties to be formed to see what events/services would be wanted and to feed this back to the Village Committee / Parish Council who may be able to access grants.

Community Action 6 – Village Qualities

The Parish Council will work with residents and other community organisations to protect, maintain and promote the village's services and qualities.

Community Action 7 – Village Newsletter

The Parish Council will continue to print hard copies of the Village Newsletter while a demand exists but consider ways to keep the production cost effective.

Community Action 8 – Dog Poo Bins

The Parish Council will highlight the locations of dog bins on noticeboards and remind people to ensure proper disposal of bags.



HIGHWAYS AND TRAVEL



Context

- Because most road improvements can take place within the highway, they do not require planning permission and, as such, the neighbourhood plan is not an appropriate place to contain policies for their improvement.
- Likewise, the provision of bus services is a decision made outside the planning system.
- Although the Parish Council cannot deliver highway improvements, it does have a lobbying role in delivering such measures.

Parking Standards

- The 2021 Census identifies that only 4% of households did not have access to a car or van.
- Those households with two or more cars were at much higher levels that across Babergh as a whole.
- These higher levels of car ownership result in an increased pressure on space both within the grounds of established dwellings and on the roads in the vicinity.
- The County Council sets minimum car parking guidelines for new homes as illustrated in the table above.
- Given the higher levels of car ownership in Shimpling, it is reasonable that parking standards should also be set at a higher level than the recommended minimum requirements

Public Rights of Way

- Public rights of way provide opportunities for recreational walking and, where permitted, horse riding and cycling.
- Measures to improve and extend the existing network of public rights of way will be supported provided their value as biodiversity corridors is also recognised and protected and efforts are made to enhance biodiversity as part of the proposal.
- Several "permissive paths", where the landowner grants permission for public access exist but they are not legally protected right of ways and landowners can restrict or withdraw access at any time. It may be possible to work with landowners to create further "permissive paths".

Bus Services

- The Parish Council has been lobbying the County Council to seek to improve services and will continue this action, working alongside other nearby parish councils when appropriate.

Traffic

- Our straight roads and good forward visibility means that speeds exceeding the limit regularly occur. Community Speed Watch is a community-operated initiative where trained volunteers monitor and report to the Police details of speeding vehicles in areas of concern to the community.

House size	SCC Parking Guidance	Neighbourhood Plan Requirement
1 bedroom	1 space per dwelling	2 spaces per dwelling
2 bedrooms	2 spaces per dwelling	2 spaces per dwelling
3 bedrooms	2 spaces per dwelling	3 spaces per dwelling
4+ bedrooms	3 spaces per dwelling	3 spaces per dwelling

Policy SPG 16 – Parking Standards

Development proposals should maintain or enhance the safety of the highway network ensuring that all vehicle parking is designed to be integrated into the site without creating an environment dominated by vehicles. Provision for visitor parking should also be made within the plot.

In residential developments the following minimum provision shall be made:

House Size	Minimum Requirement
1 bedroom	2 spaces per dwelling
2 bedrooms	2 spaces per dwelling
3 bedrooms	3 spaces per dwelling
4+ bedrooms	3 spaces per dwelling

For every new residential car parking space, one electric vehicle charging point shall be provided. Hard standing parking spaces and driveways should be constructed from permeable materials to minimise surface water run-off



Policy SPG 17 – Public Rights of Way

Measures to maintain, improve and extend the existing network of public rights of way will be supported where:

- their value as biodiversity corridors is safeguarded; and
- where practicable, development proposals incorporate measures to enhance biodiversity; and
- any public right of way extension is fit for purpose.

Community Action 9 – Permissive Paths

The Parish Council will seek to work with landowners to see if they would be amenable to creating more "permissive footpaths" to join up with existing footpaths and create more circular walks in the Parish.

Community Action 10 – Bus Services

The Parish Council will seek to work with landowners to see if they would be amenable to creating more "permissive footpaths" to join up with existing footpaths and create more circular walks in the Parish.

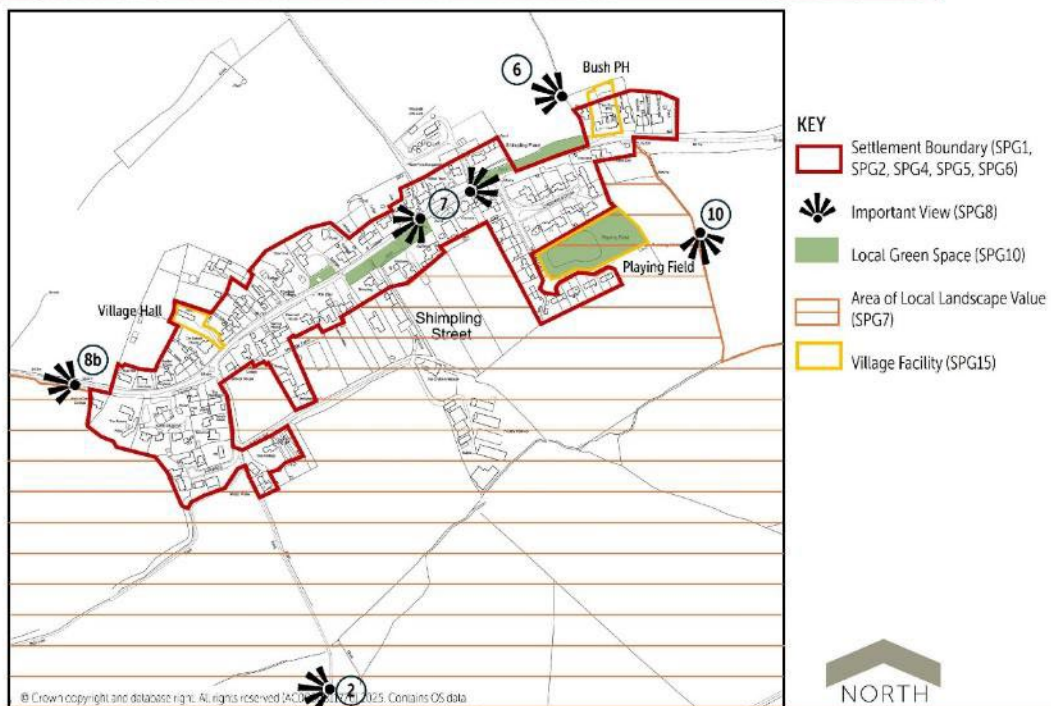
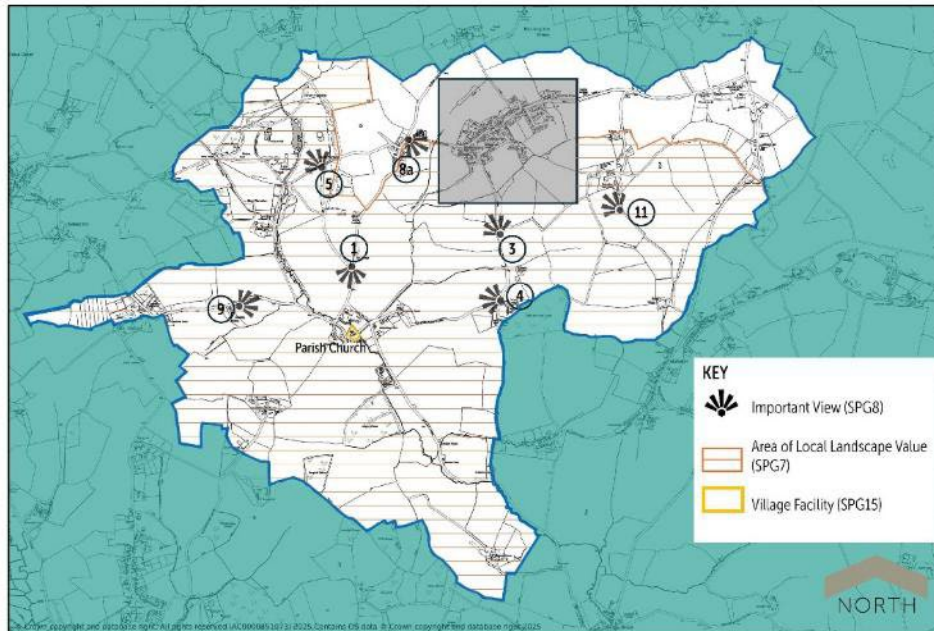
Community Action 10 – Community Speedwatch

The Parish Council will seek volunteers from the Parish to look into establishing and supporting a Community Speedwatch initiative.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE POLICY AND COMMUNITY ACTIONS?



POLICIES MAP



DO YOU SUPPORT THE CONTENT OF THE POLICIES MAPS?



WHAT NEXT?



Consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan ends on 2 March

At the end of the consultation the Working Group will review all submitted comments before deciding if any amendments to the Plan are required.

At the same time a "Consultation Statement" and a document known as the "Basic Conditions Statement" will be prepared. The Final Draft Plan – known as the "Submission Plan" and the above documents will be put to the Parish Council for approval for submission to Babergh District Council.

Further Consultation

Babergh District Council will carry out a further six-week consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan before it is submitted to an Independent Examiner

Examination

The Independent Examiner will review the Plan and consider any objections to it.

The Examiner's Report will recommend whether the Plan, possibly with amendments, should proceed to a referendum in the parish.



Referendum

If the Examiner recommends that a Referendum on the Plan should take place, this will be organised and paid for by Babergh District Council in the same way as a local election. Notice will be given of the Referendum and all those living in the parish that are entitled to vote will be asked whether the Neighbourhood Plan should be approved. No matter how many turn out to vote, if more votes say "Yes" then the Neighbourhood Plan will be adopted.

You can submit your comments on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan online at the Parish Council website or, if you don't have the internet, by completing a comments form and sending it to the address on the form.

Why not complete a form today?

Even if you like everything you've seen, please let us know

Appendix 3 – Statutory Consultees Notified of Regulation 14 Consultation

Position	Body
MP for South Suffolk	Suffolk County Council
County Cllr to Melford Electoral Division	Suffolk County Council
County Cllr to Cosford Electoral Division	Babergh District Council
Ward Cllrs to Chadacre	Babergh District Council
Ward Cllrs to Lavenham	Babergh District Council
Ward Cllr to Long Melford	Hartest Parish Council
Parish Clerk	Stanstead Parish Council
Parish Clerk	Cockfield Parish Council
Parish Clerk	Long Melford Parish Council
Parish Clerk	Alpheton Parish Council
Parish Clerk	Lawshall Parish Council
Chairman	Boxted Parish Meeting
Planning Policy and Infrastructure	Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils
SCC Neighbourhood Planning	Suffolk County Council
Land Use Operations	Natural England
Essex, Norfolk & Suffolk Sustainable Places Team	Environment Agency
East of England Office	Historic England
East of England Office	National Trust
Town Planning Team	Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
	National Highways
Stakeholders & Networks Officer	Marine Management Organisation
Policy Section	British Telecom
	Vodafone and O2 - EMF Enquiries
	Three
	EE
Estates Planning Support Officer	NHS Suffolk & North Essex Integrated Care Board
Avison Young (obo National Gas Transmission)	National Gas Transmission
Fisher German LLLP (obo NGET)	National Grid
Stakeholder Engagement Team	UK Power Networks
Spatial Planning Advisor	Anglian Water
Planning Liaison Team	Essex & Suffolk Water
DIO Assistant Safeguarding Manager	Defence Infrastructure Organisation
	National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups
	Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich
Chief Executive	Suffolk Chamber of Commerce
Strategy Manager	Freeport East
Conservation Officer	RSPB
Conservator of Forests	Forestry Commission
Senior Planning Manager	Sport England (East)
	The Crown Estate Office
	Suffolk Constabulary
Water Officer	Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service
Planning & Advocacy Manager	Suffolk Wildlife Trust
Director	Suffolk Preservation Society
Rural and Community Housing Enabler	Community Action Suffolk
	Dedham Vale Society
	Dedham Vale National Landscape & Stour Valley

Position	Body
National Landscape Enhancement Officer	Suffolk Coast & Heath National Landscape The Theatres Trust Water Management Alliance Lawson Planning Partnership Ltd James Bailey Planning Ltd Whymark & Moulton Ltd (obo Shimpling Park Farms Ltd)

Appendix 4 – Statutory Consultee Consultation Notice

SHIMPLING (SUFFOLK) NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – PRE-SUBMISSION CONSULTATION (REGULATION 14)

Dear Sir/Madam

As part of the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2015 (as amended), Shimpling Parish Council is undertaking a Pre-Submission Consultation on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish. Babergh District Council has provided your details as a body/individual we are required to consult and your views on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan would be welcomed.

The full plan and supporting documents can be viewed here together with information on how to send us your comments.

This Pre-Submission Consultation runs until Mon day 2 March 2026

We look forward to receiving your comments. If possible, please submit them online at <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ShimplingNP> or, if that is not possible, please send them in a reply to this email.

Kind regards

Clerk

Shimpling Parish Council

Appendix 5 – Summary of Responses to Consultation Questions

The consultation comments form contained questions about whether respondents supported each policy and community action and had other comments on chapters of the Plan. The results are illustrated in this appendix and all comments received are included in Appendix 6.

1. Do you have any comments on Chapters 1, 2, and 3?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		9.52%	2
2	No		90.48%	19

2. Do you support the Vision and Objectives in Chapter 4?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		85.71%	18
2	No		4.76%	1
3	No opinion		9.52%	2

3. Do you support Policy SPG 1 – Development Location?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		75.00%	15
2	No		15.00%	3
3	No opinion		10.00%	2

4. Do you have any other comments on Chapter 5 – Development Location?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		31.58%	6
2	No		68.42%	13

5. Do you support Policy SPG 2 – Housing Development?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		80.95%	17
2	No		14.29%	3
3	No opinion		4.76%	1

6. Do you support Policy SPG 3 – Housing Mix?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		85.71%	18
2	No		4.76%	1
3	No opinion		9.52%	2

7. Do you support Policy SPG 4 - Affordable Housing on Exception Sites?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		80.95%	17
2	No		14.29%	3
3	No opinion		4.76%	1

8. Do you support Policy SPG 5 – Replacement Dwellings and Conversions outside the Settlement Boundary?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		80.95%	17
2	No		14.29%	3
3	No opinion		4.76%	1

9. Do you have any other comments on Chapter 6 - Housing?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		25.00%	5
2	No		75.00%	15

10. Do you support Policy SPG 6 - Protecting Landscape Character?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		85.71%	18
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		14.29%	3

11. Do you support Policy SPG 7 – Area of local Landscape Value?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		80.95%	17
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		19.05%	4

12. Do you support Policy SPG 8 – Important Views?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		90.48%	19
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		9.52%	2

13. Do you support Policy SPG 9 – Biodiversity and Habitats?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		85.71%	18
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		14.29%	3

14. Do you support Community Action 1 – Improving Wildlife?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		80.95%	17
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		19.05%	4

15. Do you support Policy SPG 10 – Local Green Spaces?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		85.71%	18
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		14.29%	3

16. Do you support Community Action 2 – Maintaining Public Spaces?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		80.95%	17
2	No		4.76%	1
3	No opinion		14.29%	3

17. Do you have any any other comments on Chapter 7 – Natural Environment?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		15.00%	3
2	No		85.00%	17

18. Do you support Policy SPG 11 – Special Character Area?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		80.95%	17
2	No		4.76%	1
3	No opinion		14.29%	3

19. Do you support Community Action 3 – The Coal House?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		76.19%	16
2	No		4.76%	1
3	No opinion		19.05%	4

20. Do you support Policy SPG 12 – Design Considerations?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		80.95%	17
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		19.05%	4

21. Do you support Policy SPG 13 – Flooding and Sustainable Drainage?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		90.48%	19
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		9.52%	2

22. Do you support Community Action 4 – Drains and Ditches?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		90.00%	18
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		10.00%	2

23. Do you support Policy SPG 14 – Minimising Light Pollution?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		85.71%	18
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		14.29%	3

24. Do you have any comments on Chapter 8 – Historic and Built Environment?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		20.00%	4
2	No		80.00%	16

25. Do you support Policy SPG 15 – Village Services and Facilities?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		90.48%	19
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		9.52%	2

26. Do you support Community Action 5 – Community Groups?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		85.71%	18
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		14.29%	3

27. Do you support Community Action 6 – Village Qualities?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		85.71%	18
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		14.29%	3

28. Do you support Community Action 7 – Village Newsletter?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		85.71%	18
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		14.29%	3

29. Do you support Community Action 8 – Dog Poo Bins?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		80.95%	17
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		19.05%	4

30. Do you have any other comments on Chapter 9 – Services and Facilities?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		10.00%	2
2	No		90.00%	18

31. Do you support Policy SPG 16 – Parking Standards?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		90.48%	19
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		9.52%	2

32. Do you support Policy SPG 17 – Public Rights of Way?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		80.95%	17
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		19.05%	4

33. Do you support Community Action 9 – Permissive Paths?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		90.48%	19
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		9.52%	2

34. Do you support Community Action 10 – Bus Services?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		80.00%	16
2	No		0.00%	0
3	No opinion		20.00%	4

35. Do you support Community Action 11 – Community Speedwatch?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		50.00%	10
2	No		10.00%	2
3	No opinion		40.00%	8

36. Do you have any other comments on Chapter 10 – Highways and Travel?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		20.00%	4
2	No		80.00%	16

37. Do you support the content of the Policies Map or Inset Map?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		80.95%	17
2	No		9.52%	2
3	No opinion		9.52%	2

38. Do you have any comments on the Appendices?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		5.00%	1
2	No		95.00%	19

39. Do you have any general comments on the Plan?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		36.84%	7
2	No		63.16%	12

40. Ultimately, the Plan will be subject to a Parish Referendum when residents will be asked whether they want Babergh District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan to help it decide planning applications. Overall, would you vote in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan at a Parish Referendum?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes		80.95%	17
2	No		14.29%	3
3	Unsure		4.76%	1

Appendix 6 - Responses received to Pre-Submission Consultation, Responses to Comments and Proposed Changes

The tables in this appendix set out the comments that were received during the Pre-Submission Consultation Stage and the responses and changes made to the Plan as a result of the comments. The first table is laid out in Plan order with the general comments following the comments on the policies. Where proposed changes to the Plan are identified, they relate to the Pre-Submission Draft Plan. Due to deletions and additions to the Plan, they may not correlate to the paragraph or policy numbers in the Submission version of the Plan.

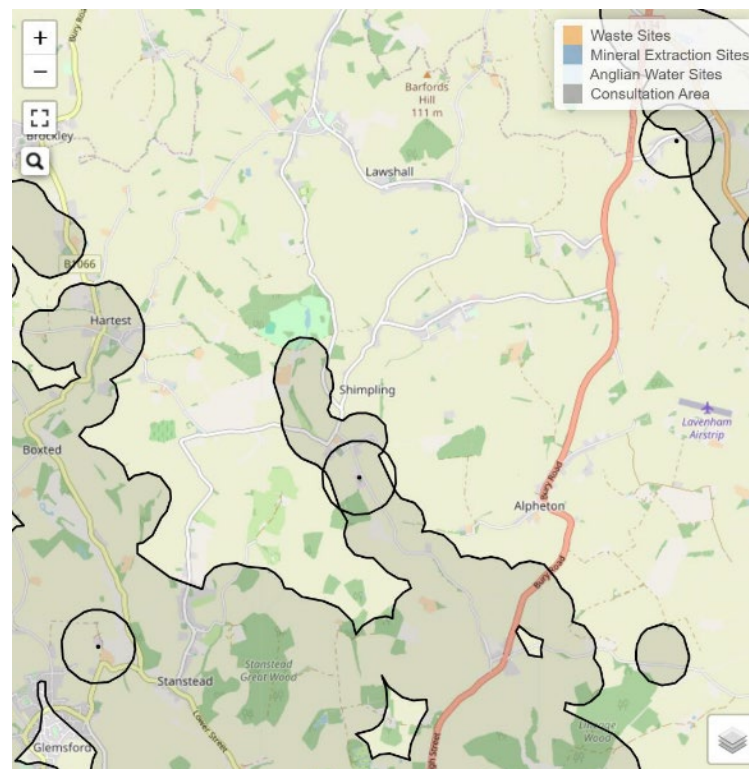
Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
Chapters 1, 2 and 3				
L Rooke		1.1 & 1.3 "These Plans, when properly "made" become part of the legal planning framework for the designated area." and "Neighbourhood plans cannot contradict the main government planning policies or the strategic policies in the Local Plan for the area." Does this mean the Shimpling Neighbourhood Plan is unimportant when higher authorities have a different view regarding development?	The neighbourhood plan regulations stipulate that they, like local plans, must be prepared to be in accordance with national planning policy, primarily expressed in the National Planning Policy Framework.	None
		The 2026 proposed Shimpling Neighbourhood Plan has not accounted for recent Babergh changes in building requirements.	The neighbourhood plan is in accordance with the Joint Local Plan (November 2023). There are no other statutory local plan documents in place that specify a housing requirement for Shimpling.	None
		The 2006 Shimpling Neighbourhood Plan is a good example where 15 or more dwellings were built outside The Plan and then there were no major Gov't building demands to adhere to.		
		Recent directives from Central Gov't dictate Babergh should increase dwellings built per year from 416 to 775. The trickle down effect suggested by Babergh is for Shimpling to accommodate potentially 70 additional dwellings over the next 20 years.	That figure, published in March 2025, has no status. Any housing requirement for parishes would have to be identified in a local plan and tested through	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		The 2026 plan seems not to have taken this potential additional dwelling requirement into account.	consultation and examination by government planning inspectors before they have any status.	
		At the request of Babergh, Local landowners have been asked to provide land for potential development. Offers have been put forward for potentially 20 dwellings well outside The Plan. With Babergh under pressure to build more dwellings these offers may be accepted, ref. 1.3.	Sites submitted early in 2024 were assessed to deliver a potential 18,492 dwellings. Further significant sites were submitted in winter 2025/6 but they capacity of those has yet to be published. In March 2025 the District Council identified a need to identify sites for 13,362 homes. Until the District Council confirms a settlement hierarchy and distribution of growth through the new Local Plan, it would not be appropriate to identify development sites in the neighbourhood plan.	None
		The 2026 Plan should be more ambitious and identify preferred areas where Shimpling can expand rather than be directed by a higher authority to accept new dwellings built outside The Plan, which will surely happen.		
		Additionally, The Plan seems to have focused on Shimpling Street only and ignored the Parish as a whole. Was this part of the brief or chosen not to be included?	The Plan covers the whole parish, acknowledging that the main built-up area is Shimpling Street.	None
P Vinson		I found the information given interesting and useful.	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
	Babergh District Council	Planning Policy Context Para 3.4 ~ Is there any significance re the 'March 2025' date used in the last sentence?	The date was when the neighbourhood plan was originally drafted. It will be updated in the submission plan.	Update date in para 3.4
	Suffolk County Council	Minerals and Waste Suffolk County Council is the Minerals and Waste Planning Authority for Suffolk. This means that SCC makes planning policies and decisions in relation to minerals and waste. The relevant policy document is the Suffolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan, adopted in July 2020, which forms part of the Local Development Plan.	Noted	None
		SCC notes the inclusion of the Suffolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan in paragraph 3.6.	Noted	None
		It is recommended that the wording be strengthened by mentioning that the Suffolk Minerals and Waste Plan sets out safeguarding for minerals and waste sites, particularly in Policy MP10 and Policy WP18. This should be adhered to when using the development framework to determine development brought forward in the plan area. Also, it is mentioned that there are no waste facilities in Shimpling, but there is a sewage treatment facility which would classify as a waste site. SCC recommends that this should be mentioned in the plan.	Paragraph 3.6 will be amended to identify the need to demonstrate that mineral resources will not be needlessly sterilised and that the operation of safeguarded waste sites will not be prejudiced.	Amend para 3.6 to refer to the need to demonstrate that mineral resources will not be needlessly sterilised and that the operation of safeguarded waste sites will not be prejudiced
		There is mention in paragraph 3.6 of a safeguarding requirement for the sewage treatment facility on Aveley Lane and this will be addressed later in the plan. However, where this has been picked up on later in the plan cannot be found and should be added in if missing, and in either case should be clearly signposted to from paragraph 3.6.		

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
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It should also be noted that part of the parish of Shimpling lies partly within the Minerals Consultation Area. As such, Policy MP10 will apply to any development coming forward within this area, as illustrated with the map below.



(On the map above the dots with circles around them are water/sewage treatment facilities and their safeguarding boundaries – the other shaded in area is the 'minerals consultation area' - Policy MP10 SMWLP).

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
Anonymous		People live in Shimpling because they like the rural setting and that it is a small village where people know and help each other - strong sense of community spirit. If too many additional properties are built these things will be reduced and/or lost.	Noted	None
L Rooke		A nice vision but reminds me of an Ostrich with head in sand. Unfortunately time will not stand still. Shimpling has to accommodate these rapidly developing changes or be forced to do so. 30 years ago this vision could work. Over the past 20-30 years Suffolk and Norfolk are seen as two of the areas most desirable for resettlement. I would like Shimpling to remain as it is but has to accommodate this trend along with new directives from higher authorities and the 2026 Plan is not allowing for this trend.	Until there is some clear direction of the distribution of growth across Babergh district in the form of their new Joint Local Plan, the Neighbourhood Plan is in conformity with the housing growth policy of the current Joint Local Plan.	None
M Atkins		It is noted that the Vision states ..."Any new development will have been directed to within the Settlement Boundary..." This over-arching principle is supported.	Noted	None

Policy SPG 1 – Development Location

N Schofield		I don't agree with 5.3. I don't believe infill should be used for development, the end result is of squeezed in properties with side and back gardens filled with properties. Take a look at Gt Waldingfield as a prime example of infill development.	The Plan supports the principle of infill but other policies of the Plan would also apply, such as impact on neighbouring properties and the character of the area.	None
L Rooke		"The focus for new development will be within the defined Settlement Boundary, as shown on the Policies Map" I stand to be corrected but The Plan appears to show the derelict barns behind the listed Coal House as the only potential development.	Until there is some clear direction of the distribution of growth across Babergh district in the form of their new Joint Local Plan, the	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
Anonymous		One obvious area to accommodate more dwellings and keep Shimping Street a compact Hamlet is an area both South and North of Gents Lane and an area moving eastwards towards Streetfield Close. North of Gents Lane are a number of brown field sites ideal for development and may satisfy immediate requirements of the current Gov't and Babergh. There is virtually no where to develop within the settlement boundary. There are very few infill plots to fit the criteria specified.	Neighbourhood Plan is in conformity with the housing growth policy of the current Joint Local Plan. Noted	None
P Vinson		Regarding Appendix 1 Points LP14 and LP22, it would be good practice if the Parish Council was consulted.	The Parish Council is consulted on all planning applications.	None
	Suffolk County Council	Regarding Appendix 2; if there are further developments perhaps it would be preferable that existing planning permissions are completed before new ones are granted. Use of the term 'detrimental' is open to interpretation as it is not well defined within national or local policies.	Planning law does not allow this. Noted	None None
		Also, this policy contains a reference to the term 'landscape designation', but this usually refers to National Parks and National Landscape, so it is suggested to not be used in this context. The following amendments are recommended as this wording ensures clarity and consistency:	Disagree as the Neighbourhood Plan designates an area of Local Landscape Value.	None
		'Proposals for development located outside the Settlement Boundary will only be permitted where they are in accordance with national, district and neighbourhood level policies and where they would not have a detrimental impact <i>result in significant adverse impacts and effects</i> on heritage assets and landscape designations character.'	The policy wording is consistent with recently examined neighbourhood plans and this amendment is not considered necessary.	None

Other comments on Chapter 5 – Development Location

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
J Schofield		It is always helpful if the planning Officer or named person on planned development works is contactable. I feel that it is important as it is frustrating to leave multiple messages and emails to hear that the person only works one day a week and will get back you.	This is beyond the remit of the Parish Council	None
C Squire		Any development along Gents lane must include the widening and relaying of the road and the residing of the ditches to avoid flooding issues. As it is a single track - any development must be minimal as there are no passing places.	Noted	None
L Rooke		Why has Little Chad and the Mill Hill area not been included in the 2026 Plan? This area has potential for additional dwellings if land is released for building.	Paragraph 5.13 notes that the Joint Local Plan provides for the consideration of "windfall" infill proposals of one or two dwellings within clusters of 10 or more dwellings outside settlement boundaries such as Little Chad.	None
M Atkins		The Settlement Boundary as depicted on Map 3 is supported	Noted	None
P Vinson		See above Q3.	Noted	None
C Mapus-Smith		Whilst appreciating the volume of work that has gone into this document it does not add anything new in terms of development. In fact, what is written looks contradictory. Whilst stating a need for certain types of housing it appears that has to be within the current settlement boundary - a boundary which has many newly built houses outside of it - and no space within for extra houses. The boundary needs to be redrawn to reflect new buildings required by local residents (looking either to up or downsize) or to meet the NPPF for more houses to be built in the area.	Until there is some clear direction of the distribution of growth across Babergh district in the form of their new Joint Local Plan, the Neighbourhood Plan is in conformity with the housing growth policy of the current Joint Local Plan.	None
	Babergh District Council	Para 5.11 and Map 3 ~ We note that this Plan seeks to bring the settlement boundary at Shimpling Street up to	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		date to "reflect recent development" and that this "generally follows physical features on the ground". The revised boundary seems sensibly drawn. Consequently, we have no specific comment to make on it at this time.		
Policy SPG 2 – Housing Development				
C Squire		Any new build between the pub and the bus stop needs to have its own access lane behind the green area and trees - ie on the farm land and the public footpath must be preserved.	Noted	None
N Schofield		Again, infill development is suggested which spoils the street scene.	Other policies of the Plan would also apply, such as impact on neighbouring properties and the character of the area.	None
L Rooke		SPG 2 is self defeating in that there is potentially little or no infill development with existing frontage. Backland development is preferable to ribbon development and there are examples of backland development being allowed by Babergh although objected to by Shimpling.	Noted	None
Anonymous		I think the statements made concerning sustainability within the village are farcical. The high proportion of villages in the country do not have access to facilities such as surgeries and schools within the village. In my experience, when you choose where to live, you can look at the services offered within the village, and make your own decision.	Noted	None
	Suffolk County Council	Similar to comments made for Policy SPG1, it is recommended that instead of the use of the term 'detrimental', using 'significant adverse' would be better as it is in line with industry terms. The following amendment should be made: "iii. would not have a detrimental significant adverse impact on the built and natural character [...]"	The policy wording is consistent with recently examined neighbourhood plans, and this amendment is not considered necessary.	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
Policy SPG 3 – Housing Mix				
Northcott		It seems about right but may need some additional considerations in terms of number of developments and the required support services.	Noted	None
Anonymous		There appears to be a need for more affordable housing or 2/3 bedroom houses. The statistics portray a middle class, older demographic, with very little scope for first time buyers, or young people presently living with family, wishing to purchase their own home	Noted	None
Policy SPG 4 - Affordable Housing on Exception Sites				
Anonymous		But feel that affordable housing schemes don't really work - we have some properties in the village that are meant to follow these "rules" but as far as I am aware are not occupied by people with any connection to the village and are just a way of getting cheap rental accommodation by people within the much wider region.	Noted	None
Anonymous		I think it's very much depends on where these exception sites are as it could lead to the settlement boundary of the village just becoming larger and larger and Shimpling Street no longer being considered a hamlet as it is now and that is why so many of us have chosen to live here and bring up our families	Noted. Any sites put forward would still have to consider impact on character etc.	None
M Atkins		This policy is loosely worded and contradicts other areas of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan. It is clearly articulated elsewhere in the Plan that development should be confined to within the Settlement Boundary, unless in exceptional circumstances. For instance, the Vision states "Any new development will have been directed to within the Settlement Boundary" and para 5.7 states "while development proposals outside a settlement boundary are only supported in exceptional circumstances."	Affordable housing on exception sites is one of those exceptional circumstances, as set out in national planning policy.	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		This policy seeks to define exceptions to the above and, as worded, could be seen to support new development outside of the Settlement Boundary. Its wording is capable of differing interpretations (e.g. what is "small scale")	The development of affordable housing outside the settlement boundary is a commonly used approach to delivering affordable housing to meet the identified needs of that settlement. It means that the land does not have development value and therefore brings down development costs, making the housing cheaper and affordable.	None
		This policy should be removed from the Plan and replaced with a policy stating that there will be a presumption against new development outside of the Settlement Boundary. This accords with other areas of the Plan and represents a consistent approach.	Policy SPG 1 does this but allows for exceptions such as in SPG 4.	None
		Table 5 of the Joint Local Plan clearly sets out exceptions where development outside of Settlement Boundaries might be permitted; it is unnecessary for the Neighbourhood Plan to seek to define other exceptions and thus create ambiguity in this respect. To please note that these comments relate to NEW development outside of the Settlement Boundary.	Table 5 of the Plan refers to Joint Local Plan Policy LP07 - Community-led housing and rural exception site affordable housing.	None
Anonymous		Yes but feel the criteria is again farcical. With the expectation that landowners are desperate enough to sell land at a price significantly below market value to benefit the council	Noted	None
P Vinson		However, I should like landscape value, amenity value and biodiversity to be considered at all times.	Those policies of the Plan would still apply.	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
	Babergh District Council	A minor observation only. Would criterion ii read better if it referred to “the parish” rather than “the village” ?	Criterion ii will be amended as suggested.	Amend criterion ii to refer to parish rather than village.
Policy SPG 5 – Replacement Dwellings and Conversions outside the Settlement Boundary?				
D Rowe		Any replacement dwellings and conversions should be within the Settlement Boundary.	The policy applies to the many existing dwellings that already exist outside the settlement boundary.	None
Anonymous		I am extremely concerned about replacement dwellings and conversions as the very lovely barn at the top of Robinson's Drive between Shimpling and Lawshall had been turned into a real monstrosity with no thought to the character of the original building or to its heritage and situation and I would describe it as real blot on the otherwise lovely landscape and I cannot understand how this was allowed to happen and would hate this to happen in other places	Noted	None
P Vinson		See below Q9	Noted	None
C Mapus-Smith		A limited response.	Noted	None
	Suffolk County Council	Instead of the ‘detailed analysis of the visual impacts’, it would be recommended to request a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) or Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA). This is because the potential impacts and effects are not necessarily only visual, but often the visual effects arise from impacts on landscape features, which can also lead to effects on the fabric of the landscape and the local landscape character.	Agree that an LVIA or LVA or other proportionate assessment should be sought. The policy will be amended.	Amend policy to require proposals for proposals in this category to be accompanied by an LVIA or LVA or other proportionate assessment.
Other comments on Chapter 6 - Housing				
Anonymous		Part of Shimpling's attraction is the number of attractive old buildings - many Listed. This aspect need to be protected as there are some more modern properties (from 1980's onwards) that look out of place and are	Other policies in the Plan, Joint Local Plan and the NPPF address how the impact of	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		unsympathetic to their neighbouring Listed/old properties.	proposals on listed buildings will be assessed.	
C Squire		All housing built must have off road parking for a minimum of 2 cars - the village is poorly served by public transport and residents need cars to do general living tasks - shopping etc. and there is not room for parking on The Street or any other lanes in the village.	This is addressed in Policy SPG 16	None
N Schofield		Not just housing but any developments that are bounded by ditches, the maintenance of ditches should become the responsibility of the developer or whoever has bought the land. For example where the village sign is positioned Suffolk Highways take responsibility for the green space upto the top of the ditch. The new bungalows in the field opposite the sign have a boundary to the top of ditch their side. This leaves a ditch which no one is responsible for. Formerly the previous landowner maintained the ditch, today no one has taken ownership.	This would be dependent upon ownership.	None
Anonymous		I would agree that any development should be limited to only 2 or 3 bed cottages rather than 4 or 5 bedrooms so that children who have grown up here have the opportunity to continue to remain here if they wish and again with older people wanting you down size.	Noted	None
Anonymous		The surveys of the residents in Shimpling, portray a demographic unwilling to move forward or develop. This stance is supported by the Parish council and Babergh, as reflected in how little development there has been in the last 20yrs	Noted	None
P Vinson		There should also be consideration of amenity (and wildlife) value of access roads and lanes for walking, cycling and riding as well as for cars.	These matters are addressed elsewhere in the Plan as well as the Joint Local Plan.	None
	Babergh District Council	Para 6.1 ~ The second sentence needs updating now that we are no longer preparing a Part 2 JLP. We suggest: <i>"JLP1 did not provide housing numbers to be applied to emerging neighbourhood plans. This matter will now be</i>	Para 6.1 will be amended as suggested.	Amend para 6.1 as suggested by BDC.

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		<i>dealt with in the preparation of the new Joint Local Plan. Work on this has commenced but it is unlikely to be adopted until 2029."</i>		
		To continue the housing number theme, while our Joint Local Plan Part 1 does not set out a housing number for this or other neighbourhood plan areas, we remind the Parish Council that, in March 2025, we did circulate a document to all of our town and parish councils that set out 'indicative, policy off, numbers' that could be used by as a starting point. We also explained that the given number should be treated as a minimum until advised otherwise. For Shimpling, the net figure (after permitted schemes had been taken into consideration) was 65 dwellings over a 20-year period. While not the final figure, it would be remiss of us not to set out that we have yet to rule out the possibility of needing to make housing allocations in settlements like Shimpling through the Joint Local Review process.	The indicative housing numbers circulated in March 2025 have no policy status and have not been tested. The Parish Council will consider whether a review of the Neighbourhood Plan is necessary once a more robust housing requirement for the parish is known.	None
		Para 6.3 and Appendix 2 ~ Both refer to our 'Housing Land Supply Position Statement 2024' published on 11 December 2024. The 2025 Position Statement is now available, it having been published on 5 January 2026. There is the opportunity here to bring both paragraph 6.3 and Appendix 2 up to date.	The paragraph and Appendix 2 will be updated.	Amend para 6.3 and Appendix 2 to bring the Plan up-to-date.
		Of the planning applications referred to in Appendix 2, please note that: • the Barn Conversion at Midway Farm (DC/20/02648/FUL) is now showing on our records as completed as of 8 August 2025 • the detached dwelling on land adjacent to The Bush Public House (ref no. DC/20/03069/RES) also appears to have been completed, and will be recorded as such in	Appendix 2 will be amended	Amend Appendix 2 to bring it up-to-date.

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification															
		this monitoring year, unless the Parish Council are able to advise otherwise, and • for DC/22/05891/AGW, a revised scheme (DC/25/02353/FUL) was granted permission on 18 July 2025 which now seeks to convert this barn into a single dwelling. Para 6.5 ~ The closing sentence explains that, when preparing this draft Plan, we had not yet published our assessment of the suitability of the four sites put forward during our 2024 ‘call for sites’ exercise. That ‘Draft SHLAA’ assessment was put in the public domain in September 2025. From this, we summarise the findings as follows: <table><tr><th>Site ref</th><th>Site address</th><th>Comment</th></tr><tr><td>HE23328</td><td>Land east of Shimpling Street</td><td>Failed Stage 1. Site size too small.</td></tr><tr><td>HE23330</td><td>Land south of Gents Lane</td><td>9 dwellings proposed. Potentially suitable.</td></tr><tr><td>HE23334</td><td>Land south of Barnfield</td><td>5 dwellings proposed. Potentially suitable</td></tr><tr><td>HE23337</td><td>Land south of Slough Hill</td><td>6 dwellings proposed. Potentially suitable.</td></tr></table>	Site ref	Site address	Comment	HE23328	Land east of Shimpling Street	Failed Stage 1. Site size too small.	HE23330	Land south of Gents Lane	9 dwellings proposed. Potentially suitable.	HE23334	Land south of Barnfield	5 dwellings proposed. Potentially suitable	HE23337	Land south of Slough Hill	6 dwellings proposed. Potentially suitable.	Paragraph 6.5 will be amended.	Amend para 6.5 to bring it up-to-date
Site ref	Site address	Comment																	
HE23328	Land east of Shimpling Street	Failed Stage 1. Site size too small.																	
HE23330	Land south of Gents Lane	9 dwellings proposed. Potentially suitable.																	
HE23334	Land south of Barnfield	5 dwellings proposed. Potentially suitable																	
HE23337	Land south of Slough Hill	6 dwellings proposed. Potentially suitable.																	
		It could therefore be concluded that there are three sites in Shimpling that collectively have the capacity to deliver some 20 new dwellings. Of course, the Draft SHLAA is not a site allocation document, and other factors will come into play.	Noted	None															
		Please also note that we have just published an updated map to show both the 2024 and the most recent (2026) site submission. The number of sites submitted for consideration around Shimpling Street now stands at twelve. All the submitted sites are being assessed to understand if they are suitable, achievable, and available. We also intend to publish the results of this in a ‘Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA)’ in Spring 2026.	Paragraph 6.5 will be updated.	Amend para 6.5 to bring it up-to-date															

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
	Suffolk County Council	SCC welcomes and supports that adaptable and accessible homes has been addressed in paragraph 6.10, as well as including the need for homes to be built to M4(2) and M4(3) standards. However, this would be better implemented if it was also mentioned in policy. Therefore, the following wording is recommended to be added to Policy SPG 3 – Housing Mix “Planning proposals will be supported where development provides 2 and 3 bedroom dwellings <i>that are adaptable (meaning built to optional M4(2) standards)</i> and suitable to meet the needs of first time buyers <i>and families</i>, as well as the needs of an ageing population looking to downsize into homes suitable for lifetime occupation.” Instead of the ‘detailed analysis of the visual impacts’, it would be recommended to request a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) or Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA). This is because the potential impacts and effects are not necessarily only visual, but often the visual effects arise from impacts on landscape features, which can also lead to effects on the fabric of the landscape and the local landscape character.	Noted Policy LP24 of the Joint Local Plan already sets requirements for accessible and adaptable dwellings under Part M4(2) of Building Regulations. This is addressed in Policy SPG 6	None None None
Policy SPG 6 - Protecting Landscape Character				
P Vinson		BUT I am not sure if Gents Lane is considered as part of landscape which I think it should. As a single track country lane, that is very popular for walking, it might fall between consideration as landscape character, highway and natural and historic environment.	Gents Lane is within the Area of Local Landscape Value covered by Policy SPG 7	None
C Mapus-Smith		Mostly.	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
	Suffolk County Council	SCC welcomes this policy and notes that it is well written.	Noted	None
Policy SPG 7 – Area of local Landscape Value				
	Suffolk County Council	It is noted that the NPPF is to be updated and is currently in consultation. The draft NPPF no longer refers to Valued Landscapes. Depending on when this Neighbourhood Plan is submitted for Regulation 16 consultation the plan may be examined against the current NPPF, however in the wider context of national policy this Neighbourhood Plan policy may carry less weight, and this is a point for the Parish Council to keep in mind.	Noted.	None
Policy SPG 8 – Important Views				
Anonymous		It is important to have discussion and for all residents to be able to have the opportunity to air their views	The policy refers to views of the landscape not residents' views.	None
P Vinson		Ref Point 7.11 I think that the view looking south from the beginning of the footpath that goes from Gents Lane down to the church should be added. It is definitely one of the most popular footpaths in the village and I'm sure is one that often causes people "to pause and appreciate the scene"	Important views in the parish have been assessed by a Landscape Architect and View 2 covers the view towards the church from this footpath.	None
	Suffolk County Council	It is noted that 11 important views have been identified. It is recommended that this policy should refer to Map 7 – Important Views, despite it being located directly above the policy a reference will ensure they are considered together. Also, all 11 important views should be listed in the policy.	The policy will be amended to include reference to Map 7. It is not considered necessary to list all views in the policy.	None
		It is noted that the evidence base for these important views is good and it is welcome that the process is detailed in Shimpling Parish Landscape Appraisal Character, Sensitivity and Key Views (May 2025).	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
Policy SPG 9 – Biodiversity and Habitats				
C Squire	Suffolk County Council	Any replacement hedgerow must be of sufficient volume to create a replacement habitat e.g. for bird nesting and be cared for in the early years to ensure it survives	Noted	None
Anonymous		However I feel that no amount of compensation can adequately replace the loss of established habitats and trees etc which can have taken decades to have reached where they are now and that on no account should these be disturbed	Noted	None
P Vinson		Please don't forget wildflowers - the amount and variety has greatly reduced since I was growing up in this area.	Noted	None
		The wording of the first two paragraphs of this policy is rather out of date regarding the Environment Act 2021. Developers are no longer required to only look to avoid significant harm and implement adequate mitigation measures, last resort compensation, etc. It goes further than that now, developers now have a duty to leave the environment in a measurably better state than they found it (with a statutory minimum of 10%). They can no longer simply look to mitigate any significant harm. SCC suggests amending the policy accordingly to align with the language of Environmental Act 2021.	Paragraph 7.14 acknowledges the statutory requirements of the Environment Act 2021 which is enforceable regardless of planning policy. The policy wording has been examined very recently in Babergh NPS and found to meet the Basic Conditions and has not previously attracted this comment from the County Council.	None
		Even though SPG 9 states in its last paragraph that this is "in addition to the statutory requirements [...]". SCC notes for clarity and consistency that features such a bat boxes, while encouraged, will not count towards Biodiversity Net Gain to offset development. Although such features could potentially improve the wider biodiversity of the area, this is not the same as achieving Biodiversity Net Gain.	The use of the wording "in addition to the statutory requirements" makes it clear that the measures in the final paragraph do not count towards biodiversity net gain.	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		Criterion b. refers to the wrong location and should refer to Shimpling instead of Baylham.	Criterion b will be amended.	Amend criterion b. to refer to Shimpling
Community Action 1 – Improving Wildlife				
Anonymous		I don't think it is up to the Parish Council to encourage farmers to improve wildlife/biodiversity - this needs to come from higher levels of Government in the form of support for farmers/proper pay for their goods/reducing importing goods they can supply/grants.	The Parish Council can have a role in encouraging improvement.	None
P Vinson	Suffolk County Council	See above Q13	Noted	None
		SCC welcomes Community Action 1 – Improving Wildlife.	Noted	None
Policy SPG 10 – Local Green Spaces				
Anonymous		Although the Hallifax Place Playing Field is rarely used as far as I am aware but think the green space is still important to preserve.	Noted	None
Anonymous		And do these include the beautiful wildflower area outside of Shimpling house that could be destroyed if included into a garden and then sold on in the future for someone new to destroy without anyone being able to stop it	The area is included	None
	Suffolk County Council	SCC welcomes the 4 Local Green Space in Policy SPG10 - Local Green Spaces and shown on the Policies Maps and Map 8.	Noted	None
Community Action 2 – Maintaining Public Spaces				
N Schofield		Ditches could also be noted in this section and the maintenance of them.	These are addressed in Community Action 4	None
Other comments on Chapter 7 – Natural Environment				
J Wall		It's not that easy to determine who owns some of the green spaces, and what therefore can be done with them.	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
Anonymous		I think the addition of more trees, hedges, wildflowers and bulbs is incredibly important	Noted	None
P Vinson		Possibly add Gents Lane.	Noted	None
	Suffolk County Council	Perhaps we could build up information about wild plant species in the Parish. <i>Paragraph 7.1</i> SCC notes that BNG requirements may change compared to those outlined in this paragraph. It is suggested to be flexible and simply state that the Neighbourhood Plan will stay in line with up-to-date legislation.	This is not considered necessary.	None
		<i>Paragraph 7.5</i> SCC welcomes the reference to the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment, and that it is accompanied with a link. It is suggested that a reference to the Shimpling Parish Landscape Appraisal Character, Sensitivity and Key Views (May 2025) supporting document could also be included in this paragraph.	This is not necessary as the paragraphs in this section essentially set out a hierarchy of landscape assessments that apply to Shimpling.	None
Policy SPG 11 – Special Character Area				
Anonymous		Although I do think the row of red brick cottages on Gents Lane should be included within the Special Character Area.	The inclusion of these cottages would necessitate the inclusion of areas of lesser significance which would degrade the overall quality of the designated area.	None
Anonymous		Yes but I did feel that this should be extended to any proposed development outside but near the special character area and not just applied to that area	The inclusion of the final sentence of the policy "Development proposals which would cause unacceptable harm to the character and appearance of the	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
L Rooke		As previously stated, Shimpling needs to look forward. Development is going to happen and Shimpling needs to try and control how and where it happens otherwise Special Character Areas becomes very subjective and will be over ridden by developers.	Special Character Area will not be supported." Would apply to proposals outside the designated area. The inclusion of the designation in the Neighbourhood Plan will require proposals to be considered in the context of the policy.	None
P Vinson		Perhaps Gents Lane and the footpath through to the Street (Nigel's Path) should be considered as part of the Special Character Area.	The inclusion of this area would necessitate the inclusion of areas of lesser significance which would degrade the overall quality of the designated area.	None
	Babergh District Council	The identification of this Special Character Area along 'The Street' west of Shimpling Place is noted. As well as being shown on Map 9, this should also be shown on the 'Shimpling Street Inset Map' at page 53.	The Inset Map will be amended to indicate the Special Character Area.	Amend Inset Map to indicate the Special Character Area.
Community Action 3 – The Coal House				
Anonymous		Again, I don't think it is up to the Parish Council to do this as it is privately owned and unfortunately the owner can pretty much do what they like with it. I don't know the history but such a building should never have been sold to an individual and should have been retained for the benefit of the village.	Noted	None
J Wall		It would be really good if this could happen. The Coal House is an important landmark in the village, a Grade 2 listed building and is currently falling into disrepair, as is the land surrounding it.	Noted	None
C Squire		its a real shame that this important historic building has been left to deteriorate and has not been improved and	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
N Schofield		used for the benefit of the village. It could have been renovated and used as a small "farm" shop - housing self service (and pay) vending machines containing essential goods e.g. milk eggs bread and local producers could sell their goods in a safe environment e.g. Biddles bread, How did this come into private ownership? It was for the village by the Halifax family. Ownership should be taken back.	Noted	None
Policy SPG 12 – Design Considerations				
C Squire		No blocks of flats or maisonettes - completely wrong for a village such as Shimpling	There are no planes for this type of development.	None
	Suffolk County Council	SCC notes and welcome that this section references 'Suffolk Parking Guidelines' with regard to secure and covered cycle storage, however it is recommended to amend this policy to reference " <i>Suffolk Guidance for Parking (2023 or subsequent revisions)</i> " regarding EV charging, on plot vehicle parking including minimum size standards and turning facilities.	This is not considered necessary.	None
		It is suggested that this section could also reference Suffolk Design: Streets Guide regarding any new development street layouts.	This is not considered necessary.	None
		In addition, proposals for development should provide suitable drainage infrastructure at accesses and any other areas which may encounter surface water runoff.	Noted.	None
Policy SPG 13 – Flooding and Sustainable Drainage				
	Suffolk County Council	SCC welcomes and supports that rainwater harvesting is being included in the policy. It is recommended to reorder the bullet points and move 'Rainwater and stormwater harvesting and recycling;' to the top of the list in this policy as this would fall in line with other documentation from SCC and central government.	The policy will be amended as suggested,	Amend order of policy bullet points as suggested by the County Council.

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		It is suggested that it may be helpful to include some current mapping images of the areas of existing flood risk and predicted flood risk due to climate change using the Flood Map For Planning & Surface Water Map .	Given the size of the Parish it is not considered that the inclusion of a map within the Plan would be helpful due to the necessary small scale. Paragraph 8.17 will be amended to include a reference to how details of flooding from watercourses and surface water can be found.	Amend paragraph 8.17 to include reference as to how details of flooding from watercourses and surface water can be found.
Community Action 4 – Drains and Ditches				
Anonymous		But I think Babergh District Council should be more forthcoming with what is under their responsibility rather than being unhelpful in answering the question.	Noted	None
C Squire		Many drains and ditches have been allowed to get blocked with vegetation and that has increased surface water and consequently potholes	Noted	None
Policy SPG 14 – Minimising Light Pollution				
Anonymous		So what can be done to restrict some houses that already have far too much outside lighting and which appears to be on for most of the evening.	Most lighting on houses does not require planning permission.	None
	Suffolk County Council	SCC Street Lighting team would consult Parish Councils on the decision whether to provide street lighting on new adoptable roads. In rural locations they are commonly left unlit to preserve dark skies or other local requirements.	Noted	None
Other comments on Chapter 8 – Historic and Built Environment				
Northcott		Need to look after our history.	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
J Schofield		Richard Weller Poley made a comment ages ago that the coal house probably should have been checked with him first before selling. However he is the chair of the Halifax Trust and somewhere in historic notes the sale must have been recorded.	Noted	None
C Squire		see comments in the text boxes above	Noted	None
P Vinson		It is greatly appreciated by myself.	Noted	None
	Babergh District Council	Para 8.1 ~ A minor modification is needed. Move the second quotation mark to the end of the paragraph, i.e., "..... (including local listing)."		
	Suffolk County Council	Flooding SCC, as the Lead Local Flood Authority, has the responsibility for managing flood risk arising from surface water, ground water and ordinary watercourses. The Environment Agency has the responsibility for managing flood risk from main rivers and the coast.	Noted	None
		SCC notes and welcomes that the plan does well in highlighting flood risk and drainage as an issue which needs to be tackled during planning. It is also welcome that there are links to a wider holistic view of water management.	Noted	None
		Archaeology Suffolk County Council maintains the Historic Environment Record (HER), which comprises a database of information on recorded archaeological sites. There are currently 65 entries for Shimpling, ranging in date from the Neolithic to the Post-Medieval periods. It is recommended to include this further information in the Historic Environment section.	Noted	None
		Additionally, it is recommended to add the following wording as a new paragraph which would cover archaeological remains:	The Plan will be amended to include a paragraph referring to the Archaeological	Insert new paragraph to refer to the need for developers to refer to

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		<i>'Development that affects or has potential to affect non-designated archaeological heritage assets (which may be unknown) would be managed through the National Planning Policy Framework, and Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service advises that there should be early consultation of the Historic Environment Record and assessment of the potential of the area at an appropriate stage in the design of new developments, in order that the requirements of the NPPF and Local Plan policies are met. The Archaeological Service is happy to advise on the level and appropriate stages of assessment'.</i>	Service, albeit the forthcoming local government review will bring this into the new unitary authorities.	the Historic Environment Record.
		This is applicable for all sites where there may be potential for multi-period remains, but infill sites that are in the historic core may have potential for archaeological remains relating to medieval occupation.	Noted	None
Policy SPG 15 – Village Services and Facilities				
No comments received				
Community Action 5 – Community Groups				
Northcott		Yes, however, could do with more emphasis on youth opportunities.	Noted	None
Community Action 6 – Village Qualities				
No comments received				
Community Action 7 – Village Newsletter				
J Schofield		There are still people in the village who rely on this heavily and the notice boards to keep up with what is happening in the village.	Noted	None
P Vinson		I would be happy to make a donation towards the cost of a printed parish newsletter.	Noted	None
Community Action 8 – Dog Poo Bins				

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
Anonymous		Only no opinion as I think it is the responsible thing to do as a dog owner and they shouldn't need to be told to use the bins and/or take it home to dispose of.	Noted	None
A Burrows		More bins are required.	Noted	None
Other comments on Chapter 9 – Services and Facilities				
Northcott		Better and more consistent WiFi	Noted	None
P Vinson		I appreciate all the work that is done to maintain services and facilities in the village.	Noted	None
Policy SPG 16 – Parking Standards				
Anonymous		But I think the number of spaces required should be even higher as every resident over 17 is likely to have a car, children are staying at home longer which is increasing the number of cars per property, and adequate space of visitors needs to be included. The roads in the Parish are narrow and windy; there are a high number of large agricultural vehicles, and we need to preserve the grass verges - so any parking on the road is dangerous/obstructive.	The policy takes a balanced view so as not to have cars dominating the plot. It also requires provision for visitor parking to be made within the plot.	None
	Suffolk County Council	This policy sets out minimum vehicle parking requirements at a higher level than Suffolk Guidance for Parking (SGP) 2023 given the higher levels of car ownership in Shimpling relative to the Babergh district. SCC Highways strongly advise full accordance with SGP unless there is strong justification otherwise.	The Parish Council considers the higher levels are justified as noted in paragraph 10.6.	None
		Regarding EV charging, a table outlining the EV charging requirements has been produced in Suffolk Guidance for Parking (2023) in line with The Building Regulations (2010), Infrastructure for the Charging of Electric Vehicles, Approved Document S (2021).	Noted.	None
Policy SPG 17 – Public Rights of Way				

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
	Babergh District Council	To connect with paragraph 10.11 and Policy SPG 17, was any consideration given to including a map within the Plan that shows the network of footpaths and bridleways?	The Plan will be amended to include a map of the current public rights of way.	Include new map to illustrate the public rights of way.
	Suffolk County Council	The primary function of PROW is for access into the countryside, and not as a biodiversity feature - although this is a secondary benefit in many routes throughout the PROW network.	Noted	None
		SCC is concerned that the current wording of this policy could caveat improvements to the PROW network, as not all improvements will actively increase biodiversity, for example widening or resurfacing. PROW within themselves are not biodiversity corridors because this term implies that they are for the use of wildlife only or are not to be disturbed by people.	The policy does not imply that all PROW have a biodiversity benefit but that, where they do, the value should be safeguarded.	None
		However, SCC understands the general principle which is being intended and recommends to either change this to 'green access network' instead to be in line with the Suffolk Green Access Strategy (2020), or to delete criterion i. from the policy for accuracy and clarity.	This is not considered necessary.	None
		Therefore, the following amendments are recommended to this policy: "i. their value as biodiversity corridors <i>green access network</i> is safeguarded; and ii. where practicable development proposals should incorporate measures to enhance biodiversity <i>within the improved or extended public right of way</i> ; and"	This is not considered necessary and the wording of the policy has been found to meet the Basic Conditions by Examiners on many occasions.	None
Community Action 9 – Permissive Paths				
	Anonymous	But I think the local farmers/landowners should be more community minded and give greater access to the countryside - the countryside is why people wish to live	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		in Shimpling so to have so few circular routes in such a rural setting seems wrong.		
Community Action 10 – Bus Services				
P Vinson		I appreciate that since the Plan was printed there are more bus services and the Parish Council are considering need and usage. I wonder if a bespoke service (like Dial-a-Ride) would be more helpful (and used) than regular services.	The Plan will be updated as necessary	Update Plan to reflect current status of bus services.
Community Action 11 – Community Speedwatch				
N Schofield		The Police are paid to do this type of activity.	Noted	None
L Rooke		Shimpling's small population and willingness of individuals to carry out this task makes it difficult to find volunteers. Individuals could take note of vehicle type, reg plate and report to police. Not in agreement with speed bumps or 20mph zones as they are not enforced, neither are 30mph zones in Shimpling.	Noted	None
Other comments on Chapter 10 – Highways and Travel				
Northcott		The standard of the roads (especially the road surfaces) need far better maintenance.	Noted	None
J Schofield		The 30 signs coming into the village from Lawshall are crumbling I noticed today.	Noted	None
G Bonson		10.13 needs to be updated to take into account the improved bus service to Bury St Edmunds from September 2025 which changed from Wednesday only to every day from Monday to Saturday. It also needs to mention the long standing weekly (Thursdays) service to and from Sudbury which seems to have been forgotten when drafting this paragraph. It also seems to read that the termtime bus only runs in the mornings although it does of course return in the afternoons	The Plan will be updated as necessary	Update Plan to reflect current status of bus services.

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
C Squire	Suffolk County Council	As The Street is quite narrow and people have to walk on the side of the roads - could the speed limit be dropped to 20 mph	Noted	None
P Vinson		See above (Q.34) re bespoke service.	Noted	None
		SCC, as the Local Highway Authority, has a duty to ensure that roads are maintained and safe as well as providing and managing flood risk for highway drainage and roadside ditches.	Noted	None
		SCC notes that SCC Transport Strategy are consulted on any new development and would look to procure highway safety and sustainable travel improvements from development wherever possible.	Noted	None
		Similarly, SCC Transport Strategy would be consulted and if any proposal had an unacceptable impact upon highway safety (clearly not in accordance with NPPF (2024) paragraph 116), we would seek mitigation to address the issues or recommend refusal if the issues could not be mitigated.	Noted	None
Policies Map or Inset Map Comments				
Anonymous	Babergh District Council	Should the wildflowers meadow/space outside of Shimpling house be added to the green spaces in order to preserve this beautiful area?	It is already included	None
L Rooke		Have previously made comment relating to this question	Noted	None
P Vinson		BUT Please see my comment on Question 12 As mentioned above, a reminder to add the 'Special Character Area' to the Inset Map.	Noted The Inset Map will be amended to include the Special Character Area.	None Amend Inset Map to illustrate Special Character Area.
Appendices				
P Vinson		Appendix 3 - I would be interested to know more about this - see comment to Q17	Priority habitats are defined in the Natural	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		Appendix 4 - Regarding Local Green Space Criteria 2 'Recreational Value' I think Gents Lane should be added.	Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.	None
		Appendix 6 - Point 1.6 I definitely agree.	The space in Gents Lane does not meet the criteria set out in the NPPF.	None
	Babergh District Council	Appendix 1 Within the table, where JLP1 Policies are quoted, please ensure that these are correct. For example, Policy SP05 is titled 'Employment Land', not 'Strategic Employment Site'.	Noted The policy titles will be amended as necessary.	Amend Appendix 1 to correct policy titles where necessary.
		Appendix 7 The following 'design checklist' criteria: 3 b., 8 b., and 10 d., all contain two separate design criteria elements from Design Guidance and Codes document. For clarity, it would be sensible to separate these out.	The appendix will be amended.	Amend Appendix 7 as identified by Babergh DC.
General comments on the Plan				
Northcott		It seems well thought out, well presented and we will be better off with it than without. Thanks to the team for all their hard work.	Noted	None
J Wall		I think its a very well thought out plan and reflects the nature of the village. I would like to have seen reference to better facilities for pedestrians given that there is no footpath along the street, and hope that maybe the PC can liaise with the landowner to provide a permissive path from the western end of the village to Hallifax Place. And I think there should be gating at the entrance to the village to try and reduce the speed of vehicles through the village.	Noted	None
J Schofield		Much work has gone into this. Thank you.	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
G Bonson		The plan is well thought out and clearly expressed and is no doubt the result of much hard work and dedication by the volunteers who have prepared it.	Noted	None
C Squire		Clearly a lot of work has gone into the plan and it is hoped that this is robust enough to secure a positive future for Shimpling	Noted	None
L Rooke		The Plan is not contributing to future housing requirements and development will be thrust upon us, like it or not.	Until Babergh DC have a more advanced new Joint Local Plan that requires a robust indicative housing requirement for Shimpling, it is not possible to consider where and how much new housing will be required in the parish over the next 11 years.	None
		The Plan has no legal authority to stop development or where it will be allowed.	The Plan, once adopted, will have the same status as a local plan.	None
		Shimpling can object to a development but ultimately the decision will be taken by Babergh or a new Unitary Authority or higher up the chain.	When a local planning authority makes a decision on a planning application it must take into account the policies of the neighbourhood plan.	None
		There are lots of examples where the 2006 Plan was ignored when it suits Babergh and will be more so with the Gov't manifesto of 1.5M dwellings during their time in office!!!!	As above.	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
D Dunkley		Definitely support the need to have a local plan to help guide decisions on development in the future.	Noted	None
P Vinson		I should like to thank the Parish Council and everybody who has done, and continues to do, work on all aspects of this plan.	Noted	None
C Mapus-Smith		As above. A lot of work has gone into the document - which is appreciated. Most folk are mainly concerned with planning and inappropriate development schemes. However, an opportunity has been missed here to redraw a boundary which could include new development without destroying the overall look and feel of the village.	Noted	None
	Babergh District Council	This response is made for and on behalf of the Head of Strategic Planning - Planning Policy and Infrastructure, Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils. Thank you for consulting us on Regulation 14 pre-submission draft Shimpling Neighbourhood Plan.	Noted	None
		This draft Plan follows a familiar format. Its policies are clearly written, they add a sufficient level of detail at the local level, and they will aid decision making. Where we have felt it necessary to comment on a policy etc., those are appended to this letter. None raise specific concerns but should be addressed as appropriate.	Noted	None
		We also note that this Plan does not allocate any new sites for housing development and provide some thoughts on that under the relevant section heading.	Noted	None
		We trust that our comments are helpful. If a follow-up conversation on any of points raised would be helpful, please do not hesitate to contact us.	Noted	None
		NPPF ~ There are a several cross-references to the December 2024 National Planning Policy Framework	The NPPF references will be amended as necessary.	Amend NPPF references as identified by Babergh DC

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		(the NPPF). Some need amending. Please see in particular: • para 7.13, which should refer to NPPF paragraph 187 d) • para 7.14, which should refer to NPPF paragraph 192 b) • Within para 7.18, the NPPF references should be paragraphs 106 and 107 respectively • At para 7.19, the last line should also refer to NPPF paragraph 107 • At para 8.11, the last sentence contains quoted text which it attributes to NPPF paragraph 131. Cross-referring the wording to the NPPF suggests that the correct reference is NPPF paragraph 210 c). Please check and amend para 8.11 if necessary. • At Appendix 1, on the last line of the first paragraph and in the sub-heading under the table, the NPPF date should read 'December 2024'		
		You may also be aware that the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government are seeking views on how they might revise national planning policy to support the Governments wider objectives, the content of which may be relevant depending on the timetable for this neighbourhood plan.	Noted	None
		Shimpling Design Guidance and Codes ~ Final Report July 2024 While accepting that it may be difficult to get AECOM to make further changes to the Design Guidance and Codes document now the Locality Support programme has ended, we note that, on page 31: • BF.04 should read 'Parking', and not 'Relationship with surrounding context'	The Design Guidance and Codes will be amended as suggested.	Amend Design Guidance as identified by Babergh District Council

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		And that the 'design codes' marked CA.01 to CA.04 should be coded AV.01 to AV.04 (to match with pages 49 – 54)		
		It is also a little disappointing to see that, while the text of page 12 is factually correct about the adoption of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan in 2023, the wrong cover image has been used.	The correct cover will be added.	Amend Design Guidance as identified by Babergh District Council
	Environment Agency	Thank you for consulting us on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan for Shimpling.	Noted	None
		We regret that at present, we are unable to review this consultation. We have had to prioritise our limited resource, and must focus on influencing plans where the environmental risks and opportunities are highest.	Noted	None
		For the purposes of neighbourhood planning, we have assessed those authorities who have "up to date" local plans (plans adopted within the previous 5 years) as being of lower risk, and those authorities who have older plans (adopted more than 5 years ago) as being at greater risk. We aim to reduce flood risk and protect and enhance the water environment, and with consideration to the key environmental constraints within our remit, we have then tailored our approach to reviewing each neighbourhood plan accordingly.	Noted	None
		We note the Babergh Local Plan was recently adopted in November 2023, and that there are not any important environmental constraints, within our matrix for currently screening neighbourhood plans, that affect this Neighbourhood Plan Area. At this time, therefore, we are unable to make any detailed input on neighbourhood plans being prepared within this local planning authority area.	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		We encourage you to seek ways in which your neighbourhood plan can improve the local environment. For your information, together with Natural England, Historic England and Forestry Commission, we have published joint guidance on neighbourhood planning, which sets out sources of environmental information and ideas on incorporating the environment into plans. This is available at: How to consider the environment in Neighbourhood Plans - Locality Neighbourhood Planning	Noted	None
		The Local Authority will be able to advise if there are areas at risk from surface water flood risk (including groundwater and sewerage flood risk) in your neighbourhood plan area. The Surface Water Management Plan will contain recommendations and actions about how such sites can help reduce the risk of flooding. This may be useful when developing policies or guidance for particular sites and sustainable drainage measures can complement other objectives such as enhancing green spaces.	Noted	None
	Historic England	Thank you for inviting Historic England to comment on the Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Draft of your Neighbourhood Plan.	Noted	None
		We welcome the production of the neighbourhood plan, but do not consider it necessary for Historic England to be involved in the detailed development of your strategy at this time. We are, however, pleased to see Shimpling's historic environment feature throughout your plan via your Vision, Objectives and Policies.	Noted	None
		We refer you to our advice on successfully incorporating historic environment considerations into your	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		neighbourhood plan, which can be found here: https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/planning/plan-making/improve-your-neighbourhood/ .		
		For any specific advice regarding the historic environment and how to integrate it into your neighbourhood plan, we recommend that you consult your local planning authority conservation officer, and if appropriate the Historic Environment Record at Suffolk County Council.	Noted	None
		To avoid any doubt, this letter does not reflect our obligation to provide further advice on or, potentially, object to specific proposals which may subsequently arise as a result of the proposed plan, where we consider these would have an adverse effect on the historic environment.	Noted	None
		Please do contact me, either via email or the number above, if you have any queries.	Noted	None
	Ministry of Defence	It is understood that Shimpling Parish Council are undertaking a pre-submission draft consultation regarding their Shimpling Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 documentation. This document will guide the future development of the parish.	Noted	None
		The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) Safeguarding Team represents the Ministry of Defence (MOD) as a statutory consultee in the UK planning system to ensure designated zones around key operational defence sites such as aerodromes, explosives storage sites, air weapon ranges, and technical sites are not adversely affected by development outside the MOD estate. For clarity, this response relates to MOD Safeguarding concerns only and should be read in	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		conjunction with any other submissions that might be provided by other MOD sites or departments.		
		Paragraph 102 of the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024) requires that planning policies and decisions take into account defence requirements by 'ensuring that operational sites are not affected adversely by the impact of other development proposed in the area.' Statutory consultation of the MOD occurs as a result of the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Safeguarded aerodromes, technical sites and military explosives storage areas) Direction 2002 (DfT/ODPM Circular 01/2003) and the location data and criteria set out on safeguarding maps issued to Local Planning Authorities by the Department for Levelling Up.	Noted	None
		Copies of these relevant plans, in both GIS shapefile and .pdf format are issued to Local Planning Authorities by MHCLG. An assurance review was conducted by the MOD in 2023 which confirmed that, at that time, Local Planning Authorities held the most recent relevant safeguarding data. Any subsequent updates to those plans were then issued by MHCLG.	Noted	None
		The review or drafting of planning policy provides an opportunity to better inform developers of the statutory requirement that MOD is consulted on development that triggers the criteria set out on Safeguarding Plans and the constraints that might be applied to development as a result of the requirement to ensure defence capability and operations are not adversely affected.	Noted	None
		The area covered by the Shimpling neighbourhood plan pre-submission draft will both contain and be washed over by safeguarding zones that are designated to	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		preserve the operation and capability of defence assets and sites including Wattisham Station and the Eastern WAM Network.		
		Eastern WAM (Wide Area Multilateration) Network is a new technical asset, which contributes to aviation safety by feeding into the air traffic management system in the Eastern areas of England. There is the potential for development to impact on the operation and/or capability of this new technical asset which consists of nodes and connecting pathways, each of which have their own consultation criteria. Elements of this asset pass through the Capel St Mary Neighbourhood Plan authority area.	Noted	None
		Wattisham Station is located to the West of the Shimpling neighbourhood plan pre-submission draft Plan regulation 14 consultation authority area and benefits from a safeguarding zone drawn to preserve the airspace above and surrounding the aerodrome to ensure that development does not form a physical obstruction to the safe operation of aircraft using that aerodrome.	Noted	None
		New development may have detrimental impacts depending on site location relative to safeguarded sites and assets.	Noted	None
		To provide an illustration of the various issues that might be fundamental to MOD assessment carried out in response to statutory consultation, a brief summary of each of the safeguarding zone types is provided below. Depending on the statutory safeguarding zone within which a site allocation or proposed development falls, different considerations will apply.	Noted	None
			Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		The airspace above and surrounding aerodromes is safeguarded to ensure that development does not form a physical obstruction to the safe operation of aircraft using that aerodrome. Zones are drawn that trigger consultation on development of various heights to ensure that their effect on the protected airspace above and surrounding an aerodrome is assessed and, if necessary, mitigated. These zones also indicate areas where development might reduce the capability or otherwise compromise the operation of technical assets such as communications, navigation, or surveillance systems including radar. In addition to permanent physical development within these zones, the use of cranes, piling rigs or other tall plant or equipment to implement development may also be of concern.		
		Technical assets that facilitate air traffic management, primarily radar, navigation, and communications systems are safeguarded to limit the impact of development on their capability and operation. The height, massing, and materials used to finish a development may all be factors in assessing the impact of a given scheme. Developments that incorporate renewable energy systems may be of particular concern given their potential to provide large expanses of metal at height, for example where proposals include a wind turbine or roof mounted solar PV system.	Noted	None
		In addition to the safeguarding zones identified, the MOD may also have an interest where development is of a type likely to have any impact on operational capability. Usually this will be by virtue of the scale, height, or other physical property of a development. Examples these types of development include, but are not limited to: Solar PV development which can impact on the operation and capability of communications and other	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		technical assets by introducing substantial areas of metal or sources of electromagnetic interference. Depending on the location of development, solar panels may also produce glint and glare which can affect aircrew or air traffic controllers.		
		Wind turbines may impact on the operation of surveillance systems such as radar where the rotating motion of their blades can degrade and cause interference to the effective operation of these types of installations, potentially resulting in detriment to aviation safety and operational capability. This potential is recognised in the Government's online Planning Practice Guidance which contains, within the Renewable and Low Carbon Energy section, specific guidance that both developers and Local Planning Authorities should consult the MOD where a proposed turbine has a tip height of, or exceeding 11m, and/or has a rotor diameter of 2m or more; and, Any development that would exceed a height of 50m above ground level. Both tall (of or exceeding a height of 50m above ground level) structures and wind turbine development introduce physical obstacles to low flying aircraft.	Noted	None
		I trust this clearly explains our position on this update. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to consider these points further.	Noted	None
	Avison Young on behalf of National Gas	National Gas Transmission has appointed Avison Young to review and respond to Neighbourhood Plan consultations on its behalf. We are instructed by our client to submit the following representation with regard to the current consultation on the above document.	Noted	None
		<u>About National Gas Transmission</u>	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		National Gas Transmission owns and operates the high-pressure gas transmission system across the UK. In the UK, gas leaves the transmission system and enters the UK's four gas distribution networks where pressure is reduced for public use.		
		<u>Proposed sites crossed or in close proximity to National Gas Transmission assets</u> An assessment has been carried out with respect to National Gas Transmission's assets which include high-pressure gas pipelines and other infrastructure.	Noted	None
		National Gas Transmission has identified that it has no record of such assets within the Neighbourhood Plan area.	Noted	None
		National Gas Transmission provides information in relation to its assets at the website below. https://www.nationalgas.com/land-and-assets/network-route-maps	Noted	None
		Please also see attached information outlining guidance on development close to National Gas Transmission infrastructure.	Noted	None
		Distribution Networks Information regarding the gas distribution network is available by contacting: plantprotection@cadentgas.com	Noted	None
	National Highways	Thank you for your correspondence, dated on 16 January 2026, notifying National Highways of the Regulation 14 consultation on the Shimpling Neighbourhood Plan.	Noted	None
			Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		National Highways is responsible for the operation, maintenance and improvement of the Strategic Road Network (SRN) in England on behalf of the Secretary of the State. In the area within and surrounding the Shimpling Neighbourhood Plan we have responsibility for the trunk road A14.		
		Having reviewed this Shimpling Neighbourhood Plan (2025-2037), dated January 2026, we note that the Plan period aligns with that of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Neighbourhood Joint Local Plan Review. Given the location of the Neighbourhood Plan area in relation to the Strategic Road Network (SRN), and the scale and nature of the vision and policies proposed, National Highways does not consider that the plan would result in any adverse impacts on the SRN.	Noted	None
		On this basis, National Highways has no further comments to raise on this consultation.	Noted	None
	Natural England	Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 16 January 2026. Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.	Noted	None
		Natural England is a statutory consultee in neighbourhood planning and must be consulted on draft neighbourhood development plans by the Parish/Town Councils or Neighbourhood Forums where they consider our interests would be affected by the proposals made.	Noted	None
		Natural England does not have any specific comments on this draft neighbourhood plan.	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		However, we refer you to the attached annex which covers the issues and opportunities that should be considered when preparing a Neighbourhood Plan and to the following information.	Noted	None
		Natural England does not hold information on the location of significant populations of protected species, so is unable to advise whether this plan is likely to affect protected species to such an extent as to require a Strategic Environmental Assessment. Further information on protected species and development is included in Natural England's Standing Advice on protected species .	Noted	None
		Furthermore, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all environmental assets. The plan may have environmental impacts on priority species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites, soils and best and most versatile agricultural land, or on local landscape character that may be sufficient to warrant a Strategic Environmental Assessment. Information on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees is set out in Natural England/Forestry Commission standing advice.	Noted	None
		We therefore recommend that advice is sought from your ecological, landscape and soils advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local soils, best and most versatile agricultural land, landscape, geodiversity and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by the plan before determining whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment is necessary.	Noted	None
		Natural England reserves the right to provide further advice on the environmental assessment of the plan. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make. If an Strategic Environmental	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		Assessment is required, Natural England must be consulted at the scoping and environmental report stages.		
	Suffolk County Council	Thank you for consulting Suffolk County Council (SCC) on the Pre-Submission version of the Shimpling Neighbourhood Plan.	Noted	None
		SCC is not a plan making authority, except for minerals and waste. However, it is a fundamental part of the planning system being responsible for matters including: Archaeology Education Fire and Rescue Flooding Health and Wellbeing Libraries Minerals and Waste Natural Environment Public Rights of Way Transport	Noted	None
		This response, as with all those comments which SCC makes on emerging planning policies and allocations, will focus on matters relating to those services.	Noted	None
		Suffolk County Council is supportive of the vision for the Parish. In this letter we aim to highlight potential issues and opportunities in the plan and are happy to discuss anything that is raised.	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		Where amendments to the plan are suggested added text will be in <i>italics</i> and deleted text will be in strikethrough.	Noted	None
		Education SCC, as the Education Authority, has the responsibility for ensuring there is sufficient provision of school places for children to be educated in the area local to them. This is achieved by accounting for existing demand and new developments. SCC, therefore, produces and annually updates a five-year forecast on school capacity. The forecast aims to reserve 5% capacity for additional demand thus the forecasting below may refer to 95% capacity. The information below is to inform the Neighbourhood Planning Group's understanding of educational provision in the Plan Area and does not need to be included in the Plan.	Noted	None
		Early Years Chadacre ward is within the Sudbury cluster. The following information has been taken from the Suffolk County Council Childcare Sufficient Assessment (CSA) 2024-25: The range of provision in this cluster comprises group provision including a fully outdoor setting plus a few childminders who operate in urban areas. Approximately 45% of providers within the cluster are in rural locations. Only 2 of these rural settings offer baby places with one being open all year round. Working parents seeking childcare for younger children within many villages therefore travel elsewhere, creating pressure on the full daycare places available in Sudbury town centre, especially for babies where there is also a predicted deficit of places for 2025. There is also migration into Essex to access full daycare provision. Significant	Noted	None

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		housing development in Sudbury and Long Melford could impact further on demand.		
		However, childminders currently report a lack of demand and several school nurseries report low numbers of three and four year-olds. This indicates a current preference for all-year-round care in a group setting in the cluster.		
		<i>Primary Education</i> Shimpling Parish is within the primary education catchment area of All Saints CEVC Primary School, Lawshall. The school is not forecast to exceed 95% capacity during the forecast period (2029/30).	Noted	None
		<i>Secondary Education</i> Shimpling Parish is within the secondary education catchment area of King Edward VI CEVC School. The school is not forecast to exceed 95% capacity during the forecast period (2029/30).	Noted	None
		<i>Libraries</i> Provision of a library service is a statutory duty. The Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 (c. 75) is an act of the United Kingdom Parliament. It created a statutory duty for local authorities in England and Wales "to provide a comprehensive and efficient library service for all persons".	Noted	None
		The catchment library for Shimpling is Lavenham, with currently 30% of the modal size for the population of its catchment. This is supplemented by a monthly mobile library service which has 1 stop in the Shimpling area, Halifax Place on the Bury St Edmunds Mobile Library. Any housing development in the area would increase demand on this service and SCC would seek investment		

Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
		via the community infrastructure levy to mitigate the additional provision required.		
		As noticed from Policy SPG10 – Local Green Spaces and Community Action 3 - The Coal House, throughout the plan this building is referenced to as both as the "Coalhouse" and the "Coal House". For consistency and clarity, it is recommended to review the plan and choose one form to apply throughout.	The Plan will be amended for consistency	Amend Plan to Coalhouse
		<i>Typographical errors:</i> Two spelling errors in paragraph 7.1: "[...] site area greater that than 1 hectare;" And "Floorspace Floorspace is greater than 1000m2;" Incorrect punctuation in paragraph 7.12: "Many of the SSSI's-SSSIs are also [...]" Autocorrect oversight in paragraph 10.12: "Most of the public rights or of way [...]" Extra word in paragraph 10.13: "[...] the only daily bus service to Bury St Edmunds was the that which travelled [...]"	Typographical errors will be corrected	Correct typographic errors noted by SCC.
		I hope that these comments are helpful. SCC is always willing to discuss issues or queries you may have. Some of these issues may be addressed by the SCC's Neighbourhood Planning Guidance, which contains information relating to County Council service areas and links to other potentially helpful resources. The guidance can be accessed here: Suffolk County Council Neighbourhood Planning Guidance.	Noted	None
		If there is anything that I have raised that you would like to discuss, please use my contact information at the top of this letter.	Noted	None

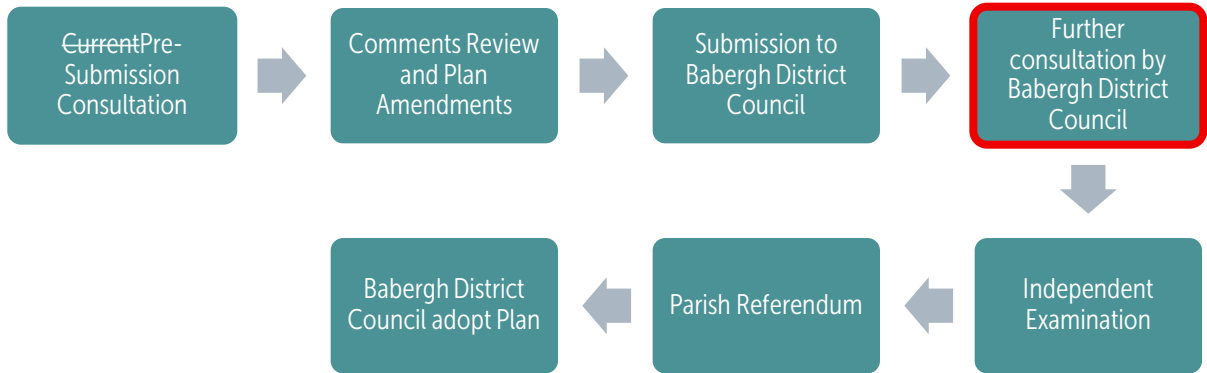
Name	Organisation	Comment	Parish Council response	Proposed modification
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Appendix 7 - Schedule of Post Pre-Submission Consultation Modifications

The table below sets out the changes made to the Neighbourhood Plan following the Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Consultation and the reasons for the modifications. Changes subsequent to the deletion of paragraphs or policies are not identified in this schedule.

Deletions are struck through eg ~~deletion~~ Additions are underlined eg addition

Page	Paragraph / Policy	Modification	Reason
Cover		Amend as follows: PRE-SUBMISSION DRAFT PLAN JANUARY <u>MAY</u> 2026	To bring the Plan up-to-date
2	Bullets 1-6	Amend as follows: 1 Pre-submission consultation on the Draft Plan by Parish Council This is the stage we've now reached. Consultation is to be carried out for 6 weeks between 17 January and 2 March. <u>This was carried out early in 2026</u> , allowing residents, businesses, landowners and a range of government bodies and service providers to comment on the Draft Plan. 2 Submission of Draft Plan to Babergh District Council All comments received at the "pre-submission" consultation will be <u>were</u> considered and reviewed and any necessary amendments to the Plan will be made ahead of the <u>will be made</u> . The Plan, together with supporting documents will then be being <u>will be</u> submitted to Babergh District Council. 3 Submission consultation on draft Plan by Babergh District Council <u>This is the stage that the draft Plan has now reached.</u> 4 Independent examination of draft Plan 5 Parish Referendum 6 Adoption by Babergh District Council	To bring the Plan up-to-date
Contents page		Amend as necessary as a consequence of changes elsewhere in the Plan	To bring the Plan up-to-date
6	1.13	Amend as follows: This is the " Pre-Submission " Draft Neighbourhood Plan and provides the first a further <u>the first a further</u> opportunity to comment on its content. At the end of the consultation, all comments received will be reviewed and any	To bring the Plan up-to-date

Page	Paragraph / Policy	Modification	Reason
		necessary changes made to the Plan before it is submitted to Babergh District Council to <u>the Plan will be the subject of independent examination and, subject to the outcome of the examination, a Parish Referendum. complete the stages, as</u> The main stages in preparing the Plan are illustrated in Figure 2.	
6	Figure 2	Amend as follows:  <pre> graph LR A[CurrentPre-Submission Consultation] --> B[Comments Review and Plan Amendments] B --> C[Submission to Babergh District Council] C --> D[Further consultation by Babergh District Council] D --> E[Independent Examination] E --> F[Parish Referendum] F --> G[Babergh District Council adopt Plan] </pre>	To bring the Plan up-to-date
7	2.5	Amend third sentence as follows: They were also responsible for a schoolhouse in The Street, the schoolmaster's house opposite, other houses in the village, a <u>coalhouse</u> coal house, as well as helping pay for restoration work to St George's church.	In response to comments
9	After 3.3	Insert new paragraph as follows and amend subsequent paragraph numbers: <u>In December 2025 the Government consulted on a draft revised NPPF which proposed the establishment of a national set of general and cross-cutting national decision-making policies. It is expected that the final revised NPPF will be published in Summer 2026.</u>	To bring the Plan up-to-date
9	3.4	Amend final sentence as follows: As at March 2025, Policies SP01 to SP10 are the strategic policies of the Local Plan.	In response to comments

Page	Paragraph / Policy	Modification	Reason
10	3.6	Amend as follows: In July 2020, Suffolk County Council adopted the Minerals and Waste Local Plan which is part of the strategic policy framework for the area. No minerals or waste sites are identified in the parish, but the Plan does refer to the need to safeguard the area in the vicinity of the Sewage Treatment Works on Aveley Lane. <u>Proposals for development will need to demonstrate that mineral resources will not be needlessly sterilised and that the operation of safeguarded waste sites will not be prejudiced.</u>	In response to comments
16	6.1	Amend as follows: The adopted local plan includes Policy SP01 Housing Needs which expresses the minimum number of new homes to be provided across the District during the plan period. The local plan does not however, at this stage provide a housing number to be applied to emerging neighbourhood plans and this matter is reserved for the Part 2 local plan being prepared. JLP1 did not provide housing numbers to be applied to emerging neighbourhood plans. This matter will now be dealt with in the preparation of the new Joint Local Plan. Work on this has commenced but it is unlikely to be adopted until 2029. The local plan does however, include a detailed policy on Affordable Housing (JLP Policy SP02), it is therefore not necessary for this Neighbourhood Plan to repeat this level of detail.	In response to comments
16	6.3	Amend as follows: In the 20 years to the 2021 Census, an additional 29 dwellings had been completed in Shimpling, a 17% increase. In December 2024 <u>January 2026</u> Babergh District Council published their annual Housing Land Supply Position Statement <u>and separate Annual Monitoring Report</u>. The latter document which noted that, in April 2025, 2024, there were permissions for an additional five homes in the parish that had not been completed, as identified in Appendix 2 <u>of this Plan</u>. No new dwellings have been approved since 1 April 2024.	In response to comments
17	6.5	Amend as follows: At the time of preparing the Neighbourhood Plan the implications of this level of growth on the Neighbourhood Area had yet to be determined. The preparation of the new Joint Local Plan will provide an opportunity to determine a "settlement hierarchy" across the district and, with it, the sustainable distribution of housing growth. Based on the previous draft Local Plan's designation of Shimpling as a "hamlet village" the Parish Council will not support a significant increase in the level of housing growth over and above previous rates. The District Council conducted a "call for sites" in January 2024 <u>and again in October 2025.</u>	In response to comments

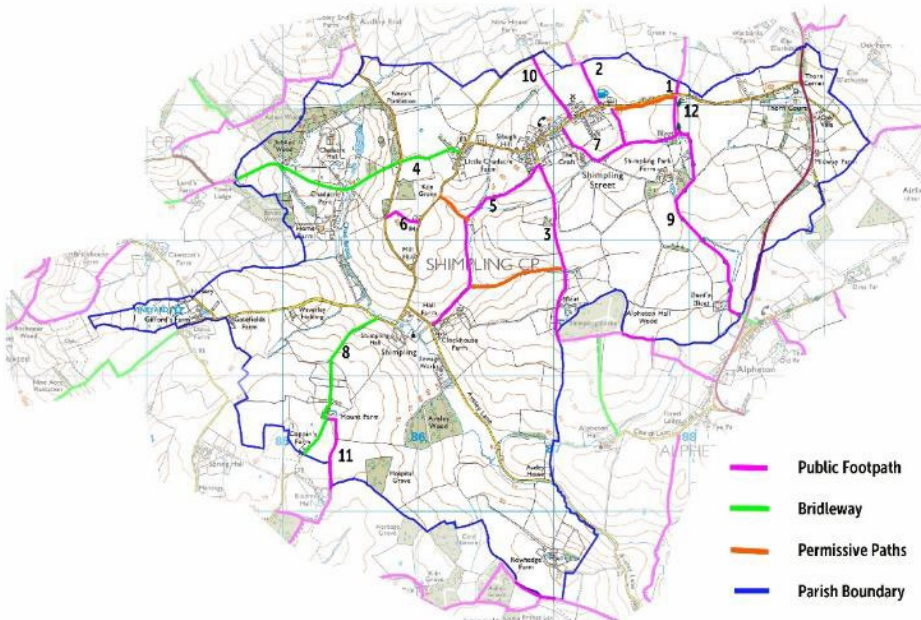
Page	Paragraph / Policy	Modification	Reason
		which The exercise resulted in four a total of twelve sites being put forward by landowners or developers. <u>At the time the Neighbourhood Plan was submitted, the District Council were assessing the submitted sites to understand if they are suitable, achievable, and available with an intention to publish the results of this in a 'Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA)' in Spring 2026.</u> At the time of preparing the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, the District Council had yet to publish an assessment of the suitability of these sites for development.	
20	SPG 4	Amend the first section of the policy as follows: Proposals for the development of small-scale affordable housing schemes, including community led developments (as defined by the NPPF) on exception sites outside but well connected to the settlement boundary, where housing would not normally be permitted by other policies, will be supported where there is a proven local need and provided that the housing: i. remains affordable in perpetuity; and ii. is for people that are in housing need because they are unable to buy or rent properties in the village <u>parish</u> at open market prices; and iii. is offered, in the first instance, to people with a demonstrated local connection, as defined by the Babergh District Council Choice Based Lettings Scheme. Where a property cannot be filled from within the Parish, it should then be offered to those with a demonstrated need for affordable housing in neighbouring villages and thereafter to the rest of Babergh District	In response to comments
21	SPG 5	Amend second paragraph of policy as follows: Applications for a replacement dwelling outside the Settlement Boundary would be expected to provide a detailed analysis of the visual impacts of the new dwelling on the landscape or countryside setting <u>through Landscape and Visual Appraisals (LVA) or Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments (LVIA).</u>	In response to comments

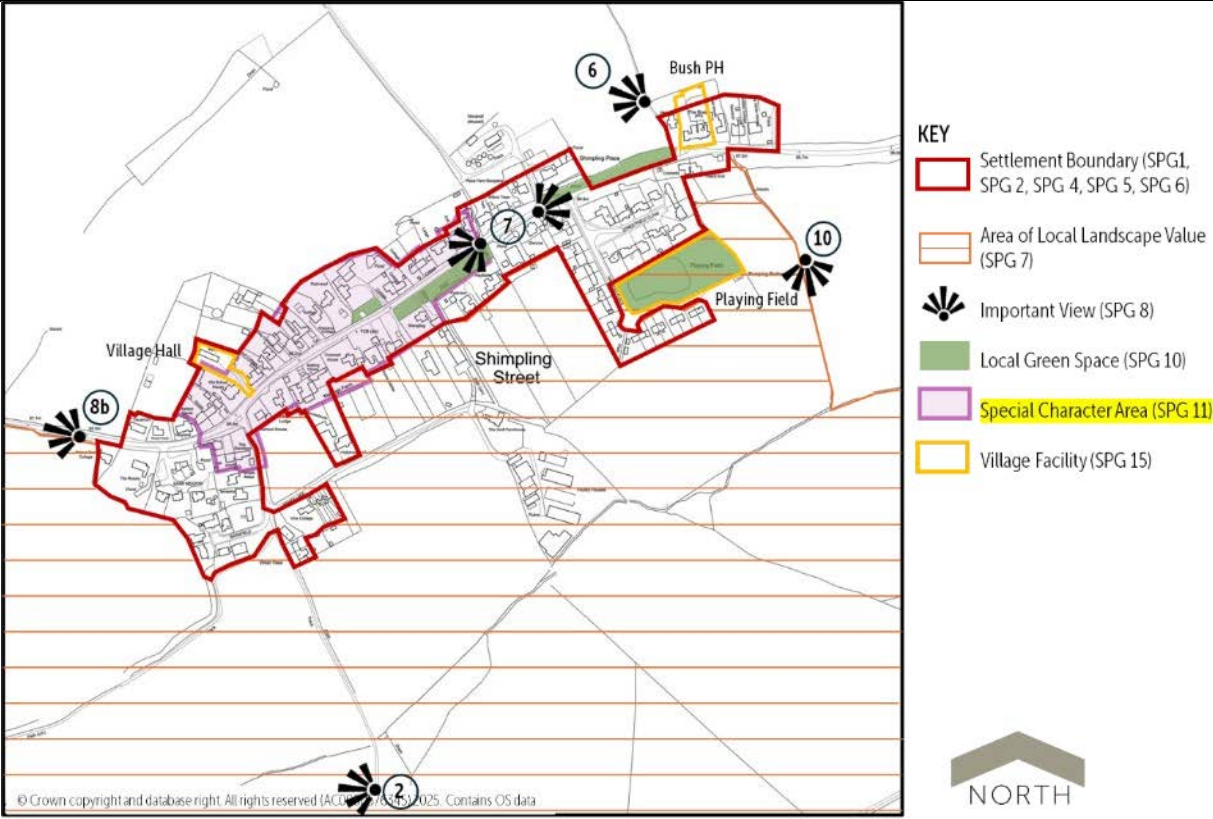
Page	Paragraph / Policy	Modification	Reason
23	7.1	Amend boxed text as follows: Larger Developments <u>Residential</u> • 10 or more dwellings + site area greater <u>than</u> that 1 hectare; or • Unknown number of dwellings – site area greater than 0.5 hectares <u>Non-Residential</u> • Floorpsace <u>Floorspace</u> is greater than 1000m²; or • Site area is greater than 1 hectare Smaller Developments <u>Residential</u> • Floorspace to be created is less than 1,000m² • Site area is less than 1 hectare	Correct error
29	7.12	Amend as follows: There are two Sites of Special Scientific (SSSI) Interest wholly within the parish, Aveley Wood and Hospital Grove, which are part of the wider Kentwell Woods SSSI and two additional sites which cross the parish boundary, namely Frithy and Chadacre Woods SSSI and Bavins and Ashen Wood. There are no County Wildlife Sites in the parish. Many of the <u>SSSIs</u> SSSI's are also ancient woodland and there are also nine "veteran trees" as mapped by the Woodland Trust. These trees only have protection if they are the habitat of a legally protected species.	Correct error
29	7.13	Amend first sentence as follows: Paragraph 187 <u>180</u> d) of the NPPF notes that decisions should "contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by.....minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures".	Correct error
29	7.14	Amend first sentence as follows:	Correct error

Page	Paragraph / Policy	Modification	Reason
		Paragraph 192 b) 185 of the NPPF states that plans should “promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats.”	
31	SPG 9	Amend criterion b as follows: b. the planting of additional native trees and hedgerows of local provenance (reflecting the character of Bayham’s Shimpling’s ancient woodland and hedgerows); and	Correct error
32	7.18	Amend as follows: There are a number of important open areas within the Parish that not only make important contributions to the character and setting of the built environment, but also play important roles in providing space for recreation. Paragraph 106 105 of the NPPF states that “The designation of land as Local Green Space through local and neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or updated, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.” Paragraph 107 106 states that the designation should only be used where the green space is: a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves; b) demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and c) local in character and is not an extensive tract of land. Planning policies for managing development within a Local Green Space are consistent with those in the NPPF for development proposals in Green Belts.	Correct errors
32	7.19	Amend last sentence as follows: Map 8 illustrates their location and Appendix 4 sets out how these areas satisfy the criteria in paragraph 107 106 of the NPPF.	Correct error
34	After 8.6	Insert new paragraph as follows and amend subsequent paragraph numbers:	In response to comments

Page	Paragraph / Policy	Modification	Reason
		<u>Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service's Historic Environment Record provides details of finds and the Service (and the subsequent service following the 2028 local government reorganisation) should be consulted at the earliest possible stages of preparing a planning application.</u>	
36	Before 8.10	Amend heading as follows The Coal House <u>Coalhouse</u>	In response to comments
36	8.10	Amend first sentence as follows: Several respondents to the survey noted that they would like to see the <u>Coalhouse</u> Coal House better maintained and also perhaps put to a good use for the village.	In response to comments
36	CA3	Amend Community Action 3 as follows: Community Action 3 – The <u>Coalhouse</u> Coal House The Parish Council will seek to encourage the owner of the <u>Coalhouse</u> Coal House to improve its condition and ongoing maintenance.	In response to comments
36	8.11	Amend last sentence as follows: Paragraph <u>210 c) 131</u> of the NPPF requires that local planning authorities take account of "the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness."-	In response to comments
37	8.17	Amend as follows: There are few properties in the parish at risk of flooding from watercourses, although Chad Brook runs close to the parish church and adjacent to Aveley Lane, putting both in or adjoining Flood Zones 2 and 3, where 3 has the highest risk of flooding. Elsewhere across the parish there are a number of areas at risk of surface water flooding, but these are primarily away from the main built-up areas. <u>Details of the extent of flood zones from watercourses and surface water flood risk can be found on the Government's "Check the long term flood risk for an area in England" website.</u>	In response to comments

Page	Paragraph / Policy	Modification	Reason
40	SPG 13	Amend as follows: Proposals for all new development will be required to submit schemes appropriate to the scale of the proposal detailing how on-site drainage and water resources will be managed so as not to cause or exacerbate surface water and fluvial flooding elsewhere. Proposals should, as appropriate, include the use of above-ground open Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS). These could include: • <u>rainwater and stormwater harvesting and recycling; and</u> • wetland and other water features, which can help reduce flood risk whilst offering other benefits including water quality, amenity/recreational areas, and biodiversity benefits; and • rainwater and stormwater harvesting and recycling; and • other natural drainage systems where easily-accessible maintenance can be achieved. Proposals that would involve the creation of new culverts or result in the loss of an open watercourse will not be permitted, unless the culvert is essential to the provision of an access and it can be demonstrated that the culvert will have no adverse impact on the ability to manage and maintain surface water drainage.	In response to comments
50	10.12	Amend first sentence as follows: Most of the public rights <u>of</u> or way radiate out from the village centre and do not provide opportunities, for example, for circular walks without using sometimes busy roads.	Correct error
50		Insert new map to illustrate public rights of way and permissive paths as below:	In response to comments

Page	Paragraph / Policy	Modification	Reason
			
51	10.13	Amend as follows: Shimpling is poorly served by bus services. At the time of preparing the Plan <u>two morning services travelled to Bury St Edmunds on Monday to Saturday with two return services to the village in the afternoon. There is also a service to Sudbury on Thursday's.</u> the only daily bus service to Bury St Edmunds was the that which travelled in the morning to Bury St Edmunds on Monday to Friday during term time. Two services to and from Bury St Edmunds also operate on Wednesday mornings but there are no buses at weekends.	In response to comments
53	Shimpling Street Inset Map	Amend to include Special Character Area on map and include on key as illustrated:	In response to comments

Page	Paragraph / Policy	Modification	Reason
			
54	Appendix 1	Amend first paragraph as follows: Policy SP03 (2) refers to circumstances where development outside Settlement Boundaries may be permitted. It refers to Table 5 of JLP1 and paragraph 80 of the NPPF (2021). This appendix reproduces Table 5 and paragraph 80 (which is now paragraph 84 in the December 2023 <u>2024</u> NPPF)	In response to comments

Page	Paragraph / Policy	Modification	Reason																							
		Amend column 1 in table as follows: <table><tr><th>Policy / paragraph</th></tr><tr><td>SP04 (1) – Gypsies and Travellers <u>Provision for gypsy and traveller and travelling showpeople</u></td></tr><tr><td>SP05 (1, 2 and 5) – Strategic employment site <u>Employment land</u></td></tr><tr><td>SP07 (1 and 2) – Sustainable <u>tourism</u></td></tr><tr><td>SP08 (1) – Delivery of key infrastructure projects <u>Strategic infrastructure provision</u></td></tr><tr><td>LP01 (1) – Infill housing <u>Windfall infill housing development outside settlement boundaries</u></td></tr><tr><td>LP02 (1) – Residential annexes</td></tr><tr><td>LP03 (1) - Residential extensions and conversions</td></tr><tr><td>LP04 (1 and 2) - Replacement dwellings and conversions</td></tr><tr><td>LP05 (1) – Rural worker dwellings</td></tr><tr><td>LP07 - Community-led housing and rural exception site <u>affordable housing</u></td></tr><tr><td>LP09 – Change of use to small scale employment development <u>Supporting a prosperous economy</u></td></tr><tr><td>LP10 – Change from employment uses <u>S</u></td></tr><tr><td>LP12 – Tourism and leisure development</td></tr><tr><td>LP13 - Tourist accommodation and removal of holiday occupancy conditions <u>Countryside Tourist Accommodation</u></td></tr><tr><td>LP14 - Intensive livestock and poultry farming</td></tr><tr><td>LP19 - Re-use / redevelopment of a heritage asset <u>The historic environment</u></td></tr><tr><td>LP20 - Change of use of land for equestrian purposes or other similar animal based uses <u>Equestrian or similar other animal land-based uses</u></td></tr><tr><td>LP21 - Change of use of agricultural land to residential garden <u>Agricultural land to residential garden land</u></td></tr><tr><td>LP22 - New agricultural buildings where there is demonstrable evidence to justify the need for them</td></tr><tr><td>LP25 - Sources, storage and distribution of energy <u>Energy Sources, Storage and Distribution</u></td></tr><tr><td>LP28 - New accessible local services and community facilities <u>Services and facilities within the community</u></td></tr><tr><td>LP31 - New health or education facilities <u>Health and Education Provision</u></td></tr></table> Following table amend heading as follows: NPPF Paragraph 84 (December <u>2024</u> 2023)	Policy / paragraph	SP04 (1) – Gypsies and Travellers <u>Provision for gypsy and traveller and travelling showpeople</u>	SP05 (1, 2 and 5) – Strategic employment site <u>Employment land</u>	SP07 (1 and 2) – Sustainable <u>tourism</u>	SP08 (1) – Delivery of key infrastructure projects <u>Strategic infrastructure provision</u>	LP01 (1) – Infill housing <u>Windfall infill housing development outside settlement boundaries</u>	LP02 (1) – Residential annexes	LP03 (1) - Residential extensions and conversions	LP04 (1 and 2) - Replacement dwellings and conversions	LP05 (1) – Rural worker dwellings	LP07 - Community-led housing and rural exception site <u>affordable housing</u>	LP09 – Change of use to small scale employment development <u>Supporting a prosperous economy</u>	LP10 – Change from employment uses <u>S</u>	LP12 – Tourism and leisure development	LP13 - Tourist accommodation and removal of holiday occupancy conditions <u>Countryside Tourist Accommodation</u>	LP14 - Intensive livestock and poultry farming	LP19 - Re-use / redevelopment of a heritage asset <u>The historic environment</u>	LP20 - Change of use of land for equestrian purposes or other similar animal based uses <u>Equestrian or similar other animal land-based uses</u>	LP21 - Change of use of agricultural land to residential garden <u>Agricultural land to residential garden land</u>	LP22 - New agricultural buildings where there is demonstrable evidence to justify the need for them	LP25 - Sources, storage and distribution of energy <u>Energy Sources, Storage and Distribution</u>	LP28 - New accessible local services and community facilities <u>Services and facilities within the community</u>	LP31 - New health or education facilities <u>Health and Education Provision</u>	
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55	Appendix 2	Amend Appendix 2 as follows: Appendix 2 –Housing planning permissions not completed as at 1 April <u>2025</u> 2024	In response to comments																							

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		Source: Babergh District Council Five-Year Housing Land Supply Position Statement <u>2025</u> 2024 Published December 2024 <u>January 2026</u> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Babergh Planning Reference</th><th>Site Address</th><th>Development</th><th>Net Dwellings</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>DC/20/02648/FUL</td><td>Barn at Midway Farm, Bury Road</td><td>Conversion and extension of barn to dwelling</td><td>1 <u>Complete August 2025</u></td></tr> <tr> <td>DC/20/03069/RES</td><td>Land adjacent The Bush, The Street</td><td>Erection of 1. detached dwelling</td><td>1 <u>Now complete</u></td></tr> <tr> <td>DC/22/06130/AGD</td><td>Barn at Mount Farm, Blooms Hall Lane</td><td>Change of use of barn to one dwelling</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr> <td>DC/22/05891/AGW</td><td>Land adjacent to Gannock Bungalow, Old Rectory Lane</td><td>Conversion of barns to form 2 dwellings.</td><td>2 <u>Revised scheme approved in July 2025 for conversion into only 1 dwelling</u></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Babergh Planning Reference	Site Address	Development	Net Dwellings	DC/20/02648/FUL	Barn at Midway Farm, Bury Road	Conversion and extension of barn to dwelling	1 <u>Complete August 2025</u>	DC/20/03069/RES	Land adjacent The Bush, The Street	Erection of 1. detached dwelling	1 <u>Now complete</u>	DC/22/06130/AGD	Barn at Mount Farm, Blooms Hall Lane	Change of use of barn to one dwelling	1	DC/22/05891/AGW	Land adjacent to Gannock Bungalow, Old Rectory Lane	Conversion of barns to form 2 dwellings.	2 <u>Revised scheme approved in July 2025 for conversion into only 1 dwelling</u>	
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65	Appendix 7	Amend Appendix 7 as follows (NB there will be subsequent letter changes under sections amended) Section 3 b. Does the proposal maintain or enhance any identified views or views in general? <u>c.</u> How does the proposal affect the trees on or adjacent to the site? Section 8 b. Is the roof form of the extension appropriate to the original dwelling (considering angle of pitch)? <u>c.</u> Do the proposed materials match those of the existing dwelling?	In response to comments																				

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		Section 10 d. Does the proposed car parking compromise the amenity of adjoining properties? <u>e.</u> Have the needs of wheelchair users been considered?	