

Bury Neighbourhood Plan

Village Survey September 2016



This survey took place in order to understand the issues that concerned to Bury Village community. We had some idea from the events we had been in attendance such as the, Ramsey Carnival, a stall at Tesco's, the Bury Show and from speaking to people on an ad-hoc basis.

The questionnaire focused on these major themes but also gave people to opportunity to offer their own thoughts where these were not included sufficiently.

The questionnaire was delivered to 722 homes in the parish of Bury and it was also available to be completed on-line or downloaded and printed if required.

The survey was publicised in the local press and on our own website and Facebook pages.

We received a response of 18% for which we would like to thank the respondents. There will obviously be more surveys and opportunity to input thoughts as the process moves forward. We would like to hope that more people will be encouraged to contribute in the future.

There were a few major themes that came out loud and clear.

The RAF Upwood site, both in terms of the current state of the site, the draw it seems to a certain section of the community both near and far and the future development of the site and the need to plan forward for infrastructure such as Roads, Healthcare facilities and Schooling.

The volume, speed and size of vehicles on the roads through our community especially the Upwood Road and Bury Road/Hill but also some 'rat runs' such as Valiant Square/Tunkers lane/Owls End.

Lastly the desire to make obvious and to display the independence of Bury from Ramsey where views were to maintain our rural aspect as opposed to the more urban nature of the larger town.

The following are the issues people felt most strongly about.

About our Community

Our strengths

78% thought our strengths were the rural character and our school which 72% like our access countryside.

Open and green spaces	73%
The rural character of the Parish	78%
Local wildlife and habitats	53%
Sense of community	63%
The rural character of the Parish	78%
The school	56%
The church and churchyard	58%
Access to the countryside	72%
Views of countryside as you drive around the village	60%

Our Weaknesses

80% thought the major issue was the speed of traffic

Pedestrian safety	50%
Car Parking	43%
Volume of traffic	50%
Speed of traffic	80%
Litter	43%
Dog fouling	45%
Light pollution e.g. exterior or security lighting	16%
Excessive or inappropriate signage	5%
Lack of identity	11%

Our Facilities

The most popular facilities used and supported by our community are the Village Stores and Burtons Garage with 92% using the Stores and 77% using the garage either often or at least sometimes

	Sometimes	Often
Church Hall	8%	12%
Village Shop	23%	69%
Village Hall	34%	22%
Burtons – Fuel/Shop	42%	35%
Bury Cakes and Pies	27%	5%
Jubilee Park	18%	13%
Playing Field	16%	14%
BMX Track	2%	0%
Light pollution e.g. exterior or security lighting	8%	7%

Development

This is obviously a large issue. It is recognised that with a large 'Brown Field' site on our doorstep it was inevitable that we would see development. Many intrinsically dislike the idea of a single large development as it will change the look and feel of this small community others think it inevitable. The infrastructure is key and getting it right and complete in front of any development is absolutely key.

66% either agree or strongly agree there a need for new homes in the Parish
49% either disagree or strongly disagree
70% agreed that we need Affordable Houses for those with a local connection
whist 34% strongly agreed
67% agreed we need small houses for purchase (1 and 2 bed)
56% thought we needed Large Houses for purchase (3+ bed)
67% agreed we need retirement or Sheltered housing
72% thought there should be at least 2 off street parking bays
80% say there should be pavements and curb stones by the roadside
84% said homes should have a Garden

Traffic

As a specific issue people were really concerned about traffic speed in these areas.

90%/40% STRONGLY AGREED/Agreed when looking at Speed in isolation thought it was an issue and specifically in these locations:

90% Upwood Road,
80% Bury Road (The High Street)
67% Bury Hill/Shilow Hill
58% Owls End
53% Tunkers Lane and Valiant Square
52% Grenfell Road/The Maltings

There was a general view that some form of traffic calming and Village Gates should be used to slow traffic down.

On these two issues a combined total of 106% Strongly agreed or agreed on these questions as opposed to 57% who disagreed or Strongly Disagreed

Many people took the opportunity to make some comments on issues they felt strongly about.

These are a flavour reflecting the major themes.

'Speeding motorists, school & Rat runs - also through traffic'

'We are getting older. Build retirement housing first more housing stock be released'

'Would like car registration details and number of recorded incidents published'

'The infrastructure must come first; Roads, Drains, Power etc'

'Traffic calming at Upwood Road/B1040 junction ie a roundabout (would calm traffic in 'Bury Road/High Street/Upwood Road'

'With more housing, more doctors & schools required & better road structure to meet the extra growth'

'Mix of houses provided the infrastructure is in place first, we need to aim to keep the village a village & not a town !!'

'Parking on pavements causes obstruction to wheelchair users. It should be stopped'

Summary

So, the major themes that came through are:

- Traffic speed/volume/size and weight on Upwood Road, Bury Road and Bury Hill
- Lack of identity and the need to maintain separation from Ramsey Town
- RAF Upwood from the perspective of the current state and the draw for vandalism
- RAF Upwood as a development site where we **could** see close to 1000 homes plus businesses if the existing applications are taken forward.
 - The concerns relate to the need to plan and build infrastructure early, this includes health services for both doctors and dentists, possibly a school and community buildings and open spaces.
 - The concern that small developments would not have to consider the infrastructure whilst everyone knew in the end it would be required.
 - There is concern about the access points for the volume of vehicles generated by this number of houses onto a road where there is already a high level of concern.
 - Some even suggested that with the possibility of more development to the west of Ramsey that the idea of a western bypass should be raised again.