

Lavenham Neighbourhood Plan

Revision Survey

Introduction

We recently wrote to you regarding the need to update our existing Neighbourhood Plan. Central government requirements and recent discussions within Babergh District Council, make it more important to revise the 2016 Neighbourhood Plan. This revised NP will help to determine local planning policies into the foreseeable future.

A majority of Lavenham residents rejected the previous revision. We must therefore go back to square one and collect your views and thoughts, so we need to ask you some questions about the issues and opportunities facing our village.

No one who fills in this survey can be identified. Once analysed the results will be reported back to you, via newsletters and forums to enable further discussion. This will help us develop a neighbourhood plan in keeping with local opinions, observations and suggestions.

Please help us by filling in this survey.



Completing this survey

This survey is open to all residents over the age of 16. We would like all residents to participate in this process.

As with a census document, one member of your household may complete this survey. Should household members wish they can complete their own survey document by:



- collecting a further survey from The Hub in Lady Street (open Monday-Saturday, but not Wednesdays, 11 am - 2 pm).
- going on-line to <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Lavenham-NP-Revision-Survey/>
- or using this QR code

Once completed please return paper copies of the survey, in the envelope provided to the following locations in the village;
Village Hall, AR Heeks and Son, The Hub, Lavenham Butchers, Posy or Sparling & Faiers.

The final date for completion is Monday 13th April

If you would like help in completing this survey, in the first instance, please contact The Hub on 01787 249939.

Please follow the instructions given for each question. Please try and answer all the questions. Should you not be confident in answering a question please leave it blank. If you have any additional comments to make, please attach a separate sheet of paper.

Thank you for your time. The more people who fill in the questionnaire, the greater influence we will have with Babergh District Council and central government, so please let us have your opinions.

Let us begin.....



HOUSING

In previous surveys and consultations, by far the topic of greatest concern to residents is the provision of housing, the possible location of new housing and the design of accommodation.

What is now apparent is that central government has placed a greater emphasis on the building of more homes. Thus, Babergh DC has a new homes annual target of 775 (for the whole district), up from 416 and an increase of 86%, over the 20-year plan period. The allocation for Lavenham has yet to be determined. However, Babergh's indicative target for Lavenham is 367 over 20 years. This might change when targets are finalised. We do know that, between 2001 and 2021, an additional 155 homes were built in Lavenham. There are currently some 1,150 homes in the Parish.

With this background, please complete the following section.

1. Some new homes will be required to be built in the parish; what do you consider most important?

(Please note that public housing = housing provided by a local authority or housing association or local housing providers such as Lavenham Community Land Trust)

Please tick one box per row:

	Not at all Important	Fairly important	Very important	Essential
• Privately owned.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Privately rented.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Public housing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Shared ownership ie. part owned / part rented.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Government policy and local information suggests smaller properties are required. What type of housing do you think might be needed in Lavenham over the next 20 years local plan period?

Please tick one box per row:

	Not needed	Not needed very much	Needed	Very much needed
• Flats.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Bungalows.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Cottages (usually 1½ storey).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Houses .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Single bedroom.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• 2 bedrooms.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• 3 bedrooms.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• 4 and plus bedrooms.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Sheltered housing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Housing adaptable for people with special needs and older people.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Individual and self-build plots.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Because some new homes need to be built in the parish; what do you consider most important?

Please rank in order of preference, where 1 is your first choice, and 4 is your least favourite choice:

- Infill and developments less than 10 homes.
- 10 – 24 homes.
- 25 – 49 homes.
- 50 – 100 homes.

4. For any Neighbourhood Plan to work it needs to designate specific sites for development. If new sites are necessary, please indicate what attributes you consider preferable.

Please tick one box per row:

	Not needed	Not needed very much	Needed	Very much needed
• Be designed specifically to the site.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Be laid out with gentle curves to provide a variety of outlooks and mitigate vehicular speed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Prioritise pedestrians and cyclists.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Adopt Street lighting standards to ensure people are kept safe and reduce light pollution.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Adopt measures to manage surface water and prevent flooding.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Adopt more contemporary building design and layouts.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Increase building density to use less land.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Consider buildings of three storeys.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Plant margins within and around any development with trees, hedging etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Retain existing verges, hedges and trees.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Development boundaries adjacent to open countryside to be sensitively integrated.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• New homes to be built to sustainable standards and incorporate solar panels and other sources of renewable energy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Schemes that promote well-located public spaces for the benefit of the community.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Provide a site for a new school.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Provide a site for a care home.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

Please tick one box per row:

	Definitely Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Definitely Agree
• Without a village school the fabric of our community would be undermined.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• All new buildings in Lavenham should be sympathetic to the surroundings.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Any construction or alteration works should be built to current best practice.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• New construction should take account of the potential longevity of the building.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Any new housing development in excess of 10 units should include a proportion earmarked for people with a local connection to Lavenham and its surrounding villages and be affordable to own/rent and run.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Alterations to existing buildings should be done sensitively, taking into consideration the character and location of the property.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

GETTING AROUND AND ABOUT

Traffic, parking, transportation and associated topics have been identified as the second most important areas of concern.

6. Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

Please tick one box per row:

	Definitely Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Definitely Agree
• Traffic calming measures should be introduced at the entrances to the village.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Parking should be allowed on pavements in appropriate places.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• More public parking should be provided.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Specific car parking should be provided for people working in Lavenham.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• On-street parking spaces for disabled people should be provided.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• On-street parking should be re-configured.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Pedestrian crossings should be provided.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Signage to Lavenham from main roads needs refurbishing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Signage within the village should be improved.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Street lighting could be improved.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• More charging points for electric vehicles are essential.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Public transport needs to be expanded.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Footpaths & bridleways should be kept in good order.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Our streets are adequately cleaned.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Street repairs are dealt with promptly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



OUR ENVIRONMENT

Our local landscape and environment provide the backdrop to our daily lives.

7. Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

Please tick one box per row:

- Dyehouse Field Wood is an important village asset.
- Too much emphasis is placed on Lavenham's historic setting.
- Roadside verges should be maintained.
- It is important to manage wildlife habitats in the parish.
- There should be additional tree planting within the village.
- Lavenham needs public allotments.
- More benches should be provided in public spaces.

Definitely Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Definitely Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



SHOPPING

8. Listed below are various things that most of us spend money on.

Which best describes how often you use the following services in the village?

<i>Please tick one box per row:</i>	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Every 2-3 months	Every 6 months	Never
• Food shopping.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Gifts, cards, stationery.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Clothing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Galleries.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Post Office.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• The Hub.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• To have a drink.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• To have a meal.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Library.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Hairdressers/ barber/beauty salon.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Using the pharmacy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Visiting the surgery.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Visiting the dentist.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Using local trades people (electricians, builders, plumbers, gardeners etc).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Community activities and village events.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



9. What would encourage your household to spend more at Lavenham businesses?

Please tick all that you wish:

- Discounts (when appropriate) for residents.
- Better parking.
- Home delivery.

- Greater variety of shops.
- Greater variety of eateries.
- More competitive prices.

EMPLOYMENT

10. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Please tick one box per row:

- There is adequate and suitable employment for younger people in Lavenham.
- Lavenham will never be a provider of employment for all its inhabitants.
- Tourism is a good source of employment.
- Pensioners should be provided with opportunities to supplement their income.
- The lack of jobs means young people must move from Lavenham.
- The lack of affordable homes means young people must move from Lavenham.
- We need more employment opportunities in Lavenham.
- Lavenham should have facilities to enhance technology opportunities.
- We must improve our technology infrastructure for those working from home.

Disagree

Agree



NOW TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOURSELF PLEASE

15. How would you describe yourself?

Please tick one box:

- Male. Prefer not to say. Female.

16. What is your age?

Please tick one box:

- 16-19. 20-24. 25-44.
 45-64. 65-74. 75 and over.
 Prefer not to say.

17. How long have you lived in Lavenham?

Please tick one box:

- All my life. 20+ years. 10 – 19 years.
 5-9 years. 4 years or less. Prefer not to say.

18. The following list highlights some of our future challenges. Please rank these in order of preference that are the most important to you, with 1 as the highest and 8 as the lowest.

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| • Environment and climate change. | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Getting about the village. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Technology/Artificial Intelligence . | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Opportunities for young people. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Homes. | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Street furniture. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Growth and investment. | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Change in Local Government structure to a Unitary System. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Sense of village pride. | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

PLEASE WOULD ONLY ONE PERSON PER HOUSEHOLD COMPLETE QUESTIONS 19-21

19. How many people are there in your household?

Please tick one box:

- 1 2 3 4 5 or more

20. Which of the following statements best describes your living arrangements in Lavenham?

Tick however many apply:

- I rent my property. I part-own my property. I am an owner occupier.
 I occupy my property full time. I primarily occupy my property at weekends and holidays.

21. What is the employment status of the persons over 16 in your household?

Please identify the number in each category and only provide one answer per row:

- | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Working full time (more than 30 hours a week). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Not working, looking for work. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Retired . | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Working part time (less than 30 hours a week). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Not working, not looking for work. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Not able to work. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Full-time student. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Voluntary unpaid work. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

WHAT NEXT?

The purpose of this survey is to get your views so that we can draw up a plan for our future. No matter how professional the team that composes it no survey is perfect. Indeed, a good survey should raise further questions and requires the input of those who have gone to the trouble of answering the questions. We are sure that although having had input from village meetings, census data and additional research we possibly have missed some things out.

If something is wrong, not clear or beside the point and if you have anything further to add please comment on a separate sheet of paper and attach it to the completed survey.

If you or someone you know need any help in filling in the survey, please contact the Hub on 01787 249939

Your completed survey can be accepted up to and including the **13th April 2026**. Unless you have decided to complete online, please return your survey in the envelope provided to The Village Hall, AR Heeks and Son, The Hub, Lavenham Butchers, Sparling & Faiers or Posy. Once we have analysed the results and report back to you the findings will serve as the basis for the preparation of the Revised Neighbourhood Plan.

Thank you,
Lavenham Neighbourhood Plan Revision Group

Please keep an eye out for future Neighbourhood Plan events.

