

Bredenbury, Wacton and Grendon Bishop Neighbourhood Plan

Summary of September 2025 Community Meeting

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1.0 Introduction and approach

- 1.0.1 Bredenbury Group Parish Council is preparing a new Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Group Parish area. This new Plan will replace the Plan which was subject to a successful referendum in 2021 but which was not possible to be formally made. As part of the process of preparing the new Plan a Community meeting event was held on Saturday 27th September 2025. This Report summarises the issues raised at the meeting.
- 1.0.2 The Community Forum was publicised through the Parish newsletter and notices across the Parish for several weeks in advance.
- 1.0.3 The Community Forum took the form of an Open Day in the Village Hall in Bredenbury, and ran from 10.00 in the morning to 2.30 in the afternoon. The Community Meeting had three principal objectives – firstly to raise further awareness of the new Plan following the first community survey undertaken over the Summer of 2025, secondly to feed back to the community the responses to that consultation, and thirdly to understand in more detail the main issues facing the Parish over the lifetime of the Plan to 2031. This information will be used to inform a more detailed community survey to be issued to all households later in the year.
- 1.0.4 41 people attended the Community meeting. The meeting was in two parts. The first part was a welcome from the Chair of the Parish Council and to explain the purpose of the meeting, the status of the 2021 Plan and why a new Plan is being prepared. This was followed by a presentation from the Neighbourhood Plan consultant supporting the Parish Council with the work. The presentation slides have subsequently been published on the Neighbourhood Plan website - <https://bredenburygroup-pc.gov.uk/test-3/>
- 1.0.5 The second part of the meeting was an open session, with the community asked to give their thoughts on how the Plan could address the key issues raised in the Vision and Objectives consultation. The views of the community were captured through commenting on a number of boards around the edge of the Parish Hall corresponding to the key themes identified in a review of the 2021 Plan, and the Vision and Objectives consultation. These key themes were:
- Vision
 - Strategy
 - Housing
 - Protecting and Enhancing Local Character
 - Infrastructure
 - Traffic and accessibility
 - Employment, business and agriculture
 - Community facilities
- 1.0.6 For each theme, the boards summarised the ‘scope’ of that issue, the approach set out in the 2021 Plan, and the key issues that the new Plan would be required to address in the light of comments made to the Vision and Objectives consultation, and the review of the 2021

Plan undertaken by the Neighbourhood Plan consultant supporting the work. The boards are attached as Appendix 1. The community were asked to note down the main issues that they thought the Plan should address under each of these themes on 'post it' notes and to stick these comments to the board.

- 1.0.7 The remainder of this Report records the comments made on the day grouped by the key themes set out above.

2.0 Comments by Theme

2.1.1 The Vision and Strategy

- 2.1.2 The comments overlapped with a number of the other thematic issues – in particular pedestrian / road safety, drainage and sewage treatment (particularly in relation to Valley View) and the significance of dark skies as a key element of the character of the area. No comments were made to the Strategy theme which included the settlement boundary in the 2021 Plan.

2.2 Housing

- 2.2.1 The comments raised a number of issues including the housing growth target for the Plan.

2.3 Protecting and Enhancing Local Character

- 2.3.1 The comments broadly supported the approach set out in the 2021 Plan and with a greater recognition of the need to protect the dark skies of the Group Parish area.

2.4 Infrastructure

- 2.4.1 There was consistency with some of the issues raised in the Vision and Objectives Theme in relation to sewage and drainage. Also, potential approaches to renewable energy generation were raised.

2.5 Traffic and Accessibility

- 2.5.1 The comments highlighted concerns over pedestrian safety consistent with the comments to the Vision and Objectives.

2.6 Employment, business and agriculture

- 2.6.1 The comments supported the delivery of a community shop for the area.

2.7 Community facilities

- 2.7.1 The comments overlapped with comments made to other themes including the potential for a village shop and road safety including school car parking.

3.0 Summary

- 3.0.1 The Community meeting attracted significant interest within the community and a strong level of attendance. A total of 39 comments were made at the Community Meeting. The themes which attracted the most comments were the Vision and Objectives (10 comments), Housing (8 comments), Infrastructure (8 comments) and Community Facilities (6 comments). Of the comments made to the Vision and Objectives, pedestrian / road safety and drainage and sewage treatment were highlighted as particular priorities by the community.