



East Hagbourne Neighbourhood Plan (EHNP)

Public Meeting, 7:30-9:30pm, 20th February 2017, East Hagbourne Pavilion

This meeting was convened to provide feedback on the results from the Character Assessment for the Parish of East Hagbourne, which is almost complete and is being prepared as input to the Neighbourhood Plan.

The objectives of this meeting were to present the broad output from the Assessment and to gain feedback on how residents rate the various landscape and heritage parts of the Parish.

The meeting was attended by 31 residents of East Hagbourne.

Following a brief introduction by Crispin Topping (Chairman of the EHNP Steering Group) and David Rickeard (Chairman of EHPC), the Character Assessment was introduced. Presentation slides will be posted on the EHNP web site.

Steven Warnock presented landscape assessment, outlining the approach taken and the character of the land within which East Hagbourne lies. Most of East Hagbourne's area is broadly classed as 'Village Farmland' with high agricultural value, with some 'Alluvial Lowland' areas lying close to the water courses. The assessment looks at landscape Character and also Condition and the strategies that may be employed into the future: Conservation, Restoration, Reconstruction.

Jeremy Lake then presented a lively vision of what makes East Hagbourne distinctive, putting the landscape into context with its historic use and its relationship to the historic village. The village has retained its character as a nucleated settlement and the historic farms located in the village can still be discerned as can the routeways and use patterns of the surrounding fields. A highly distinctive feature around the village is the open agricultural landscape with few trees and open views, with species-rich boundaries mostly concentrated along watercourses. There is fragmentary survival of the historic orchards and of the management of watercourses, including for mills. The farmsteads at Coscote and Hagbourne Mill are a significant feature of the village.

A first workshop session evaluated key characteristics of East Hagbourne and Local Green Spaces. Participants were asked to enter a score (from 5 - Very Significant, to 2 - Low Significance) for each of the features to be evaluated. The results were:

Locally Distinctive Feature	Count	Rating 5	Rating 4	Rating 3	Rating 2	Average points
Historic Farmsteads/Houses	26	26	0	0	0	5.0
18th Century/earlier vernacular architecture	26	22	3	1	0	4.8
Historic Routeways	27	14	11	1	1	4.4
Traditional Farmsteads/Farm Buildings	26	17	6	3	0	4.5
Value of Watercourses	26	12	13	1	0	4.4
Open Agricultural Landscape	26	12	10	3	1	4.3
19th Century domestic architecture	26	5	15	2	4	3.8
Medieval Cultivation Strips	26	7	8	9	2	3.8
Shrunken Medieval Settlement	26	5	8	10	3	3.6
Archaeological Interest	26	7	3	13	3	3.5
Orchards	26	1	10	11	4	3.3



Local Green Spaces in/around East Hagbourne							
Parsonage Lane(HV01d,VF06,VF11)	26	21	5	0	0	4.8	
Tudor House Allotments(HV01c)	26	21	3	2	0	4.7	
Lawson's Orchard(HV01d)	26	19	6	1	0	4.7	
Hakkas Brook/Setting(VF06/11)	26	18	7	1	0	4.7	
Green Gap(VF08)	26	18	6	2	0	4.6	
Pastures Manor Farm Lane(VF05)	26	17	7	2	0	4.6	
Railway Embankment(VF12)	26	14	8	4	0	4.4	
Butts Piece/allotments(VF02)	26	12	8	5	1	4.2	
Millenium Wood(VF01)	26	9	11	5	1	4.1	
Paddocks S Millenium/Bakers Lane(VF02/03)	26	9	10	3	4	3.9	
Cemetery(VF04)	26	5	8	13	0	3.7	
Mowbray Fields(VF13)	26	6	5	12	3	3.5	
Recreation/Pavillion Great Mead(VF07)	26	5	8	8	5	3.5	
St Birinus Playing Field(VF18)	26	0	5	12	9	2.8	

Steven & Jeremy then introduced the character areas into which the village and surrounding lands had been divided for evaluation. Participants discussed and made similar ratings on what made the areas distinctive. The dynamic of the session worked and generated a lot of discussion, however the volume of material meant that a thorough review of all areas was not possible. The areas were divided among different tables and each of the landscape areas rated by between 6 and 11 people. While they must be considered indicative, they nevertheless give an impression of how people rate the different areas.

	Average
Rural area	
Southern Village Plotlands	5.0
Green Corridor	4.8
Western Village Fields	4.8
Coscote Fields	4.3
South Fields	4.3
Lower End Field	4.2
Great Mead Triangle	4.0
Alluvial Lowlands	3.8
East Tadley Field	3.6
Coscote Hamlet	3.4

Next steps: The feedback from the workshop sessions will be used by Jeremy and Steven as input to finalise the Character Assessment, which should be ready in 4-6 weeks.

The NP Report itself is nearing completion as a first draft and it is planned to deliver this to SODC for their review in early March. Following that review and incorporation of comments, the report will be released for wider public scrutiny and a further public meeting held to present the proposals and gain feedback.

The meeting closed at 9:45pm

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