
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

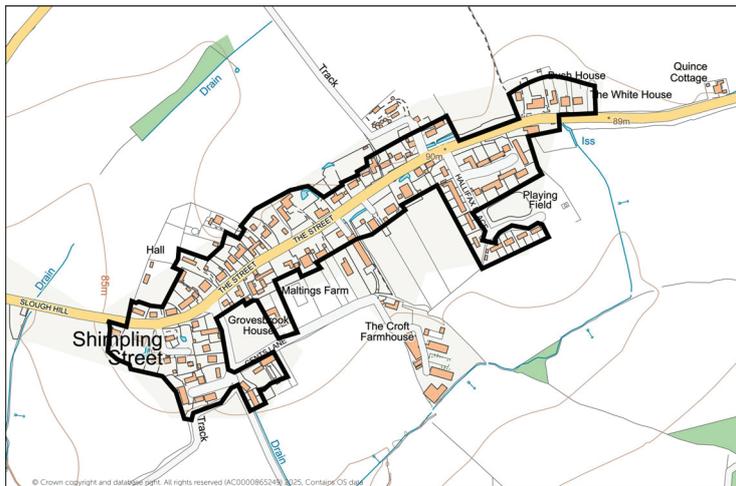
The Plan does not allocate new sites for development.

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.



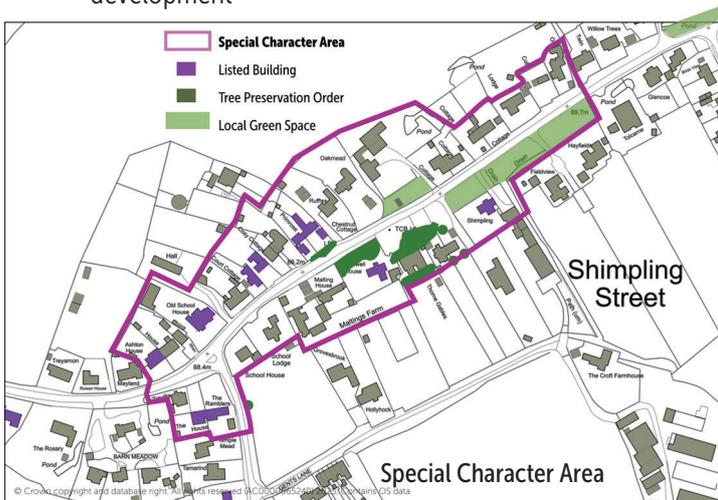
The Settlement Boundary

HISTORIC AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

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

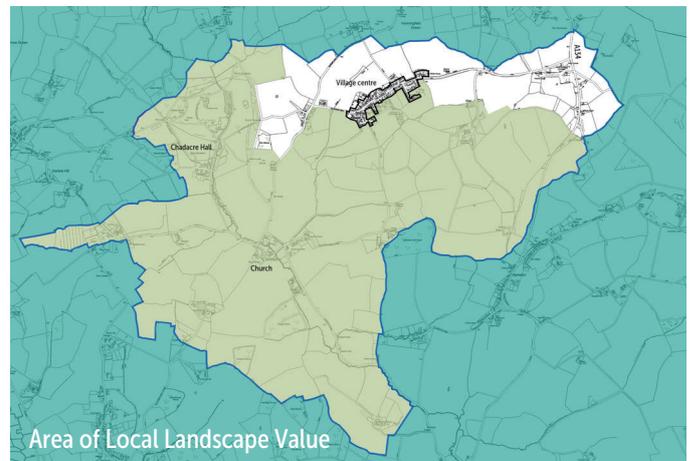
The Neighbourhood Plan:

- 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
 - Hallifax Place Playing Field,
 - Green between Shimpling Place and The Bush PH,
 - Green at The Coalhouse, and
 - 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**