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# LONG STRATTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

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2019 to 2036



ADOPTED VERSION - OCTOBER 2021

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Diane Woodham	Health and Wellbeing
Ian Hetherington	Economic Growth (local economy)
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Special thanks to Judith Baker for her involvement in the history element

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# FOREWORD

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## Welcome to the Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan

When the Long Stratton Area Action Plan first identified that Long Stratton and parts of Tharston & Hapton had been earmarked for 1800+ homes and delivery of a bypass, Long Stratton Town Council asked the question; how can we secure the integrity of Long Stratton and Tharston & Hapton and represent the local community by ensuring any development benefits the local people in a positive manner?

The situation facing Long Stratton and Tharston & Hapton was unlike any other seen before and as such serious consideration was given to the task at hand and the Long Stratton and Tharston & Hapton Neighbourhood Plan was born.

A Neighbourhood Plan is a tool for the local community to influence the future of the local area, to improve services for existing and new residents as well as to build a community with local jobs, good transport, schools, community facilities and open space.

It was agreed the Neighbourhood Plan would mirror the Long Stratton Area Action Plan which included areas of Tharston & Hapton and therefore members of Tharston & Hapton Parish Council were invited to participate in the Neighbourhood Plan and a steering group consisting of Long Stratton Councillors, Tharston & Hapton Councillors and local residents was formed.

Since then the steering group have held a number of public consultations and liaised with key stakeholders such as the Clinical Commissioning Group and Education Authority to name a few as well as engaging with professionals in Locality (the Government body that oversees neighbourhood plans), Modicum Planning, the Neighbourhood Plan consultant and AECOM who have provided a Town Centre Plan and Design Code to support how Long Stratton grows.

Without the consultations and support of the key stakeholders and professionals, the Neighbourhood Plan would have been a pipe dream; with all the input received we have been able to identify local issues and concerns to be considered. We have been able to write policies that will determine how Long Stratton and Tharston & Hapton shapes and develops in the future and have been able to gather considerable evidence to provide a plan that is right for Long Stratton and Tharston & Hapton and for that we are extremely grateful.

The Neighbourhood Plan will be used to provide guidance to Long Stratton Town Council and Tharston & Hapton Parish Council in delivering the community aspirations that have been identified. Our plan is ambitious, and our aspirations are high, but they will mean nothing if we don't make it happen. Implementing the plan in the current economic climate will at times be challenging; however, with community support and innovative ways of working the community can look forward to experiencing growth in a positive manner and will benefit from the changing landscape.

The Neighbourhood Plan is a long-term strategy and a living document that will evolve with changes both locally and nationally. The Neighbourhood Plan ethos can be found throughout and reflects the aim of the steering group 'Our long-term goal is to make sure that Long Stratton and Tharston & Hapton is the best place to live, work and play anywhere in the UK.'

Finally, I would like to give thanks to all that have given their time to this process, without you this would not have been possible.

*Kevin Worsley*

Cllr Kevin Worsley

Chairman of The Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan





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Figure 1 The Plain (Source NP committee)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1 This document is the adopted version of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) for the Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan area over the period 2019 to 2036. The purpose of the NP is to set a framework for future development within the plan area. The NP now carries the same legal weight as plans drawn up by South Norfolk Council (SNC). The planners must follow what is in the NP when making decisions about planning applications in the area subject to other material considerations<sup>1</sup>.
- 1.1 The Town Council of Long Stratton and the Parish Council of Tharston and Hapton have listened to parishioners and have drafted this Neighbourhood Plan which covers the entirety of the parish of Long Stratton and part of the parish of Tharston and Hapton. Only the parts of Tharston that are closer to Long Stratton are included in the NP area.
- 1.2 The work on the Long Stratton NP has been led by the NP steering group which comprises eight local people, a mixture of residents and councillors from both parishes.
- 1.3 The NP area covers the same area as the Long Stratton Area Action Plan (AAP) which was adopted by SNC in May 2016. The AAP was prepared by planning officers at SNC as a way of ensuring that the housing growth taking place in Long Stratton over the plan period 2016 to 2031 will be delivered subject to the creation of a bypass. Whilst the Long Stratton community were given an opportunity to engage on the AAP it is a plan driven by SNC in consultation with key stakeholders. This NP complements the work already undertaken by the AAP but provides more detail in terms of what is expected from development. This Neighbourhood Plan is written by the communities of Long Stratton and Tharston for the communities of Long Stratton and Tharston.
- 1.4 The NP has been subject to screening for both Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). In 2019, SNC concluded that

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<sup>1</sup> Many issues are capable of being material considerations, but in broad terms should relate to the use and development of land. As a general principle, the planning system works in the public interest and matters that affect solely private interests are not usually material considerations in planning decisions. However, each application is considered on its merits (DCLG, Jan 2015)



development resulting from the Long Stratton NP will not lead to an impact on sensitive receptors and therefore a full Appropriate Assessment is not required. In March 2020, SNC concluded that the NP is unlikely to have significant environmental effects on the environment and therefore does not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

### **Requirements of Neighbourhood Plans**

1.5 There are certain requirements, referred to as basic conditions which all Neighbourhood Plans will be tested against at examination: The planning policies in the plan will need to:

- be in broad conformity with the strategic policies of the South Norfolk Local Plan;
- contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development;
- be appropriate having regard to national policy and guidance (e.g. the National Planning Policy Framework 2019); and
- be in accordance with environmental and human rights legislation.

1.6 In the preparation of this NP we have had to ensure compliance with these requirements. Compliance is demonstrated in the Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan Basic Conditions Statement. In addition, Chapter 4 of this plan (vision and objectives) provides an explanation as to how the plan contributes towards addressing cross-cutting priorities relating to climate change and sustainable development.

1.7 At the time of submission, the South Norfolk Local Plan which is applicable to the Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan comprised the following documents:

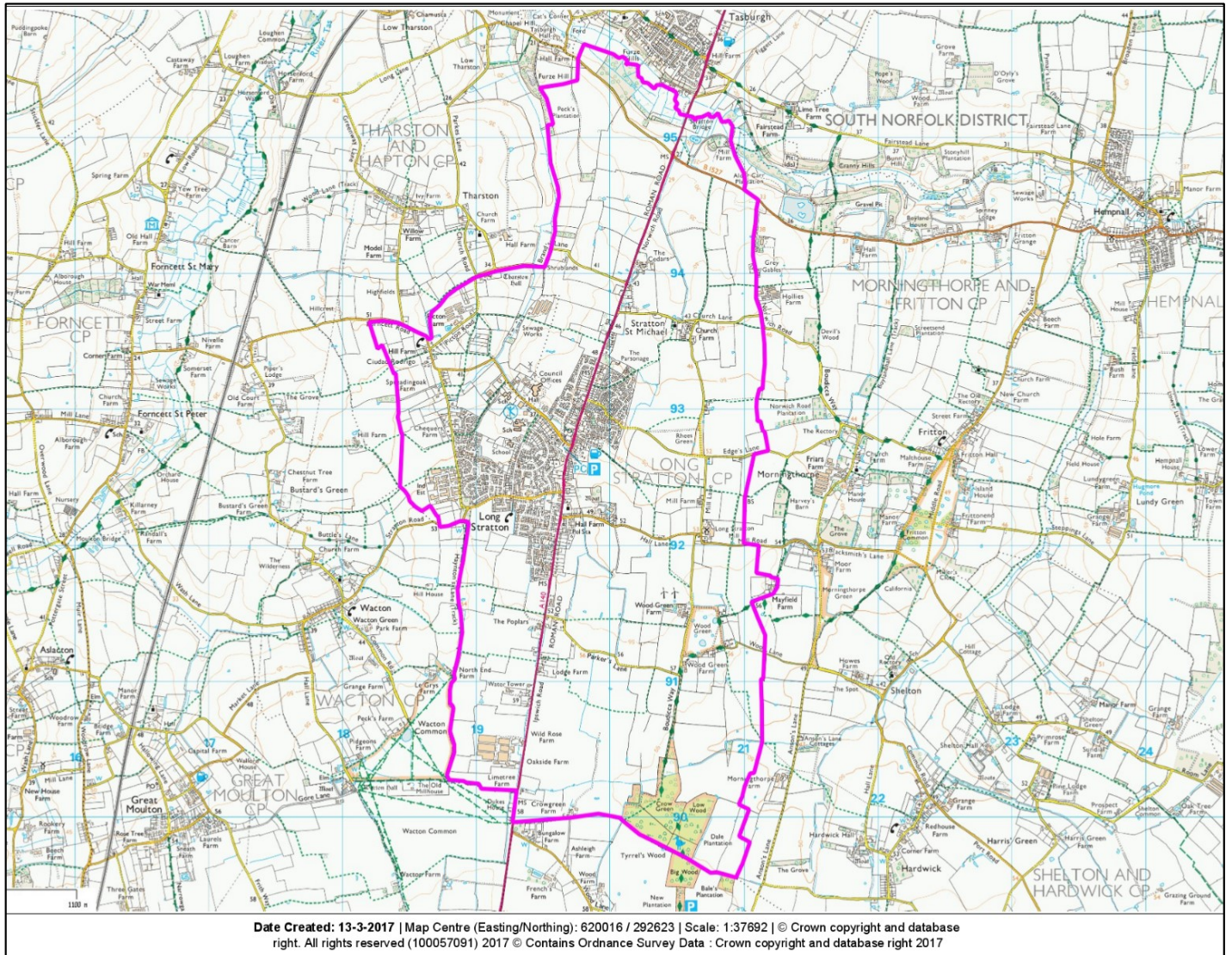
- Adopted Joint Core Strategy March adopted 2011;
- Development Management Policies Document adopted 2015;
- The adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy (2011); and
- Long Stratton Area Action Plan adopted 2016.

## 2. THE LONG STRATTON NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA

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- 2 The Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan area was designated by South Norfolk Council on 8 June 2016. The designated NP area is shown in Figure 2.1:
- 2.1 Long Stratton is a town in the district of South Norfolk. It is bisected by the A140 which provides direct access to Norwich in the north and Ipswich in the south.
- 2.2 The scale of Long Stratton Town itself means that it is well served in terms of facilities. In addition to a good range of local shops and services Long Stratton benefits from infant/nursery, junior and secondary schooling, a medical centre and a leisure centre. It is also the base for South Norfolk Council. The town acts as a sub-centre for neighbouring villages such as Wacton, Tharston, Morningthorpe, Tasburgh and Fritton.
- 2.3 The NP boundary does not follow administrative boundaries. Instead, it has been drawn to create an area more meaningful to local people in terms of their daily 'comings and goings.'
- 2.4 The NP area includes the entirety of Long Stratton Parish as well as southern parts of Tharston and Hapton Parish including residential and employment areas abutting Long Stratton Town.

Figure 2.1 Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan Area





## A Historic Settlement

- 2.5 Long Stratton stands on a boulder clay plateau which was deposited during the Ice Age. It conceals underlying solid rock which produce its gentle undulating landscape. The A140 is a Roman Pye road between Caister St Edmunds, a large settlement and the Roman city of Colchester.
- 2.6 The Roman name for Stratton was Stratum, meaning paved road or street. The name was later changed to Estratuna meaning street by the water. There have been several Roman finds in Long Stratton. In August 1773, urns and pots were found in what is believed to be a crematorium hearth. There were also coins found at this site which is where SNC offices are. Finds were also made in 1849, 1887, 1948 and in the 60s and 70s.
- 2.7 Following the Romans, the Saxons settled in 400 – 1000 AD and, after this, came the Normans. Further detail on the history of Long Stratton can be found in the history report available to view on the Neighbourhood Plan website.



Figure 2.2 Long Stratton lies low in the surrounding countryside (source: NP committee)

## Population

- 2.8 The population in Long Stratton parish was estimated to be 4,500 in 2015.<sup>2</sup> This represents a small increase from 4,424 in 2011. However, growth was more substantial during the previous decade. The population of Long Stratton was 3,701 in 2001 which implies a growth rate of about 20 percent over the decade.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> 'ONS Mid Year Population Estimates, 2015 (via Norfolk Insight) as documented in the Long Stratton DSE Review

<sup>3</sup> 2001 and 2011 Census of Population. As reported in the Long Stratton DSE Review



2.9 In 2011, the parish of Tharston and Hapton had a population of 793<sup>4</sup>. This represents an increase of 32% since the 2001 Census when the parish of Tharston and Hapton had a population of 599.

2.10 Long Stratton can be described as a youthful town<sup>5</sup>. The median age is 39 compared to 45 in South Norfolk and 43 in Norfolk. It has a relatively low proportion of people aged 60+ which is counter-balanced by higher proportions of working age people, and to a lesser extent, school age children.

## Household Composition

2.11 The NP area has a low proportion of both single and couple households with all inhabitants aged 65+ (21 percent). This compares to 26 percent in both South Norfolk and Norfolk. In contrast, the proportion of couple households with dependent children (23 percent) and lone parents (10 percent) are both higher than in South Norfolk and Norfolk.

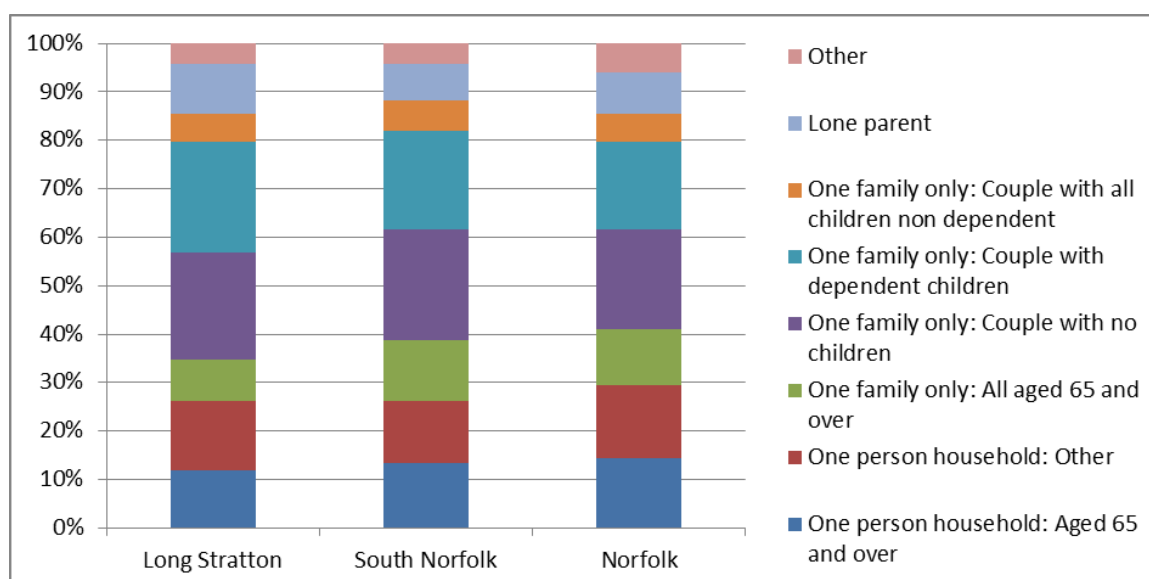


FIGURE 2.3 - LONG STRATTON HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION, 2011. SOURCE: CENSUS OF POPULATION (TABLE QS113EW), NOMIS AS REPORTED IN THE LONG STRATTON DSE REVIEW

## Housing

2.12 Growth in Long Stratton dwelling stock has been slightly below population growth. In 2011, Long Stratton had 1,897<sup>6</sup> dwellings and in 2001, it had 1,598<sup>7</sup> dwellings representing an increase of 19%.

2.13 Growth in Tharston and Hapton dwelling stock has been below population growth. In 2011, Tharston and Hapton had 299 dwellings and in 2001, it had 241 dwellings representing an increase of 24%.

<sup>4</sup> Census 2011, QS102EW

<sup>5</sup> As noted in the Demographic and Socio-Economic Review 2017

<sup>6</sup> Census 2011, KS401EW

<sup>7</sup> Census 2001, UV55

- 2.14 There have been about 123 dwellings completed in the NP area between 2011/12 and 2017/18. About half of these were in Tharston parish as part of a planning permission for 120 dwellings on Chequers Road. This permission has a further 43 dwellings still to be built (as at December 2018). There has also been a significant development of 50 dwellings completed by December 2018 on a brownfield development in Swan Lane.<sup>8</sup>
- 2.15 These figures pale into insignificance in comparison with the allocation of a minimum of 1,800 dwellings allocated for development by the Long Stratton Area Action Plan (AAP).
- 2.16 In terms of the overall housing stock (in 2011), more than eight in ten dwellings in Long Stratton are detached (41 percent) or semi-detached (42 percent). There are very few flats, typical of a rural community, but Long Stratton does have a significant supply of terraced housing.
- 2.17 The stock of semi-detached and terraced housing is important in ensuring Long Stratton has retained a supply of smaller homes for new entrants to the housing market and those wishing to downsize. Thirty-five percent of dwellings in Long Stratton have two bedrooms or less compared with thirty percent in South Norfolk.

### **Affordable Housing**

- 2.18 As at 2011, Long Stratton Parish had 299 affordable housing units<sup>9</sup>. This was made up of 251 socially rented properties and 42 shared ownership properties.
- 2.19 As illustrated in Figure 2.4, shared ownership constitutes a higher than average proportion of dwellings in Long Stratton. The proportion of social rented housing (14 percent) is higher than South Norfolk but lower than Norfolk. Long Stratton also has a significant private rented sector at a little over 10% of all dwellings.

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<sup>8</sup> Residential Land Availability: April 2017 – March 2018', South Norfolk Council and analysis of previous data

<sup>9</sup> Source: ONS - 2011 Census (KS402EW)

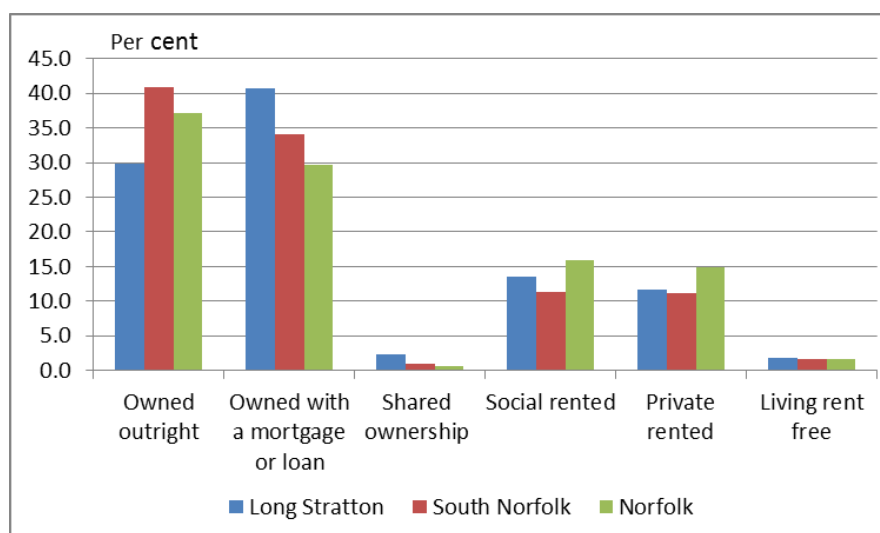


FIGURE 2.4 LONG STRATTON HOUSING TENURE, 2011, SOURCE: 2011 CENSUS OF POPULATION (TABLE KS402EW). NOMIS AS REPORTED IN LONG STRATTON NP DSE REVIEW

2.20 House prices are a significant obstacle for low income families. Prices are broadly in line with South Norfolk. It is estimated<sup>10</sup> that an income of £38,160 would be required to purchase a terraced house in Long Stratton. To put this in context, a household with two people both earning the national living wage will have an income of below £30,000.

	All	Detached	Semi-detached	Terraced	Flats/maisonettes
Long Stratton	£200,000	£249,950	£185,000	£166,950	n/a
South Norfolk	£195,000	£250,000	£179,950	£162,000	£117,500

FIGURE 2.5- A COMPARISON OF HOUSE PRICES BETWEEN THE LONG STRATTON AREA AND SOUTH NORFOLK

Note: prices are for Middle Super Output Area E02005603 which includes Long Stratton and a number of neighbouring villages

Source: House Price Statistics for Small Areas, ONS (released 24 June 2015)

2.21 Affordability is also likely to be an issue for low income households in the private rented sector. The Demographic and Socio Economic Review (DSE Review) undertaken for the NP area reviewed rental prices and found a 2 bedroom terraced house available at £135 per week, a 2 bed semi-detached house available at £144 per week and a 3 bed semi-detached house at £173 per week. All three are well above the local housing allowance rate (this is the rate at which housing benefit is capped for private rented properties).

2.22 As at September 2017, there were 27 households with a Long Stratton parish address on the South Norfolk Council Housing Register.

<sup>10</sup> See Long Stratton DSE Review, 2017

- 2.23 The Housing Needs Assessment undertaken by AECOM in December 2017 to inform the Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan identified a need (arising from the plan area itself) for 132 affordable dwellings (as well as an overall need for 408 new dwellings arising from the plan area) during the period 2017 to 2026. Furthermore, the report states that private rental housing will also have a significant role to play in meeting the needs of the 50% of households in the plan area who would be unable to afford typical mortgage at 2016 prices.

#### **Housing suitable for the elderly**

- 2.24 There are currently three different types of housing specifically suitable for the elderly in Long Stratton:
- Residential care home called the Mayfields, housing 60 residents.
  - A care home run by the county council on Flowerpot Lane.
  - A sheltered housing scheme at Depwade Court run by Saffron Housing Trust providing 35 dwellings for those aged over 60.

#### **Community**

- 2.25 There is a distinct sense of community in the NP area. There are many events in the calendar year to promote the community spirit; the firework event and village fair being just two of them. In terms of buildings or other spaces that we have for the purpose of hosting community events we have the village hall. A new community pavilion has been built by the Town Council at Manor Road following the demolition of an old condemned building. It is hoped the new pavilion will be used by some groups such as pilates, yoga and other activities. The village hall is a well-functioning building and is fully used.
- 2.26 In addition, Long Stratton has a purpose-built library which is open seven days a week.

#### **Education & Health**

- 2.27 Long Stratton is served by one infant/nursery school, one junior school and one high school. All three schools are situated on a campus style site together in the centre of the town. Post 16 further and higher education is catered for outside the area.
- 2.28 Policy LNGS1 in the Long Stratton AAP requires provision of a serviced site of at least 2.0 hectares for a new two-form entry primary school and a 60 place pre-school as part of the site allocation for 1800 new homes.
- 2.29 Norfolk County Council have indicated in meetings with the NP group that the best long-term solution to the increase in pupil numbers in the plan area will be to have two all through primary schools in Long Stratton by 2025 with a minimum of two-form entry in both primary schools and the capacity to expand to three-forms of entry in the future as needs require.
- 2.30 There are two key health facilities in the plan area. There is the Swan Lane surgery and Newton Flotman surgery provided by the Long Stratton Medical Partnership. This is located in Swan Lane and services Long Stratton and Newton Flotman. There are



11,000 patients signed up to this practice. The Care Quality Commission deemed the service to be good in 2017. There is also the Health Centre located on Flowerpot Lane known as the Norfolk Community Health and Care Surgery. It offers a range of services including district nurses and midwives, community therapists and a range of clinics.

### **Natural Environment**

- 2.31 Long Stratton is situated in the countryside and as such has green spaces all around although the countryside is not all readily accessible to the public. Key assets include:
- A network of public rights of way crisscrossing the countryside in most areas of the plan area but not in the north west.
  - Tyrrel's Wood - located in the south and extends into neighbouring parish Pulham Market. Visitors access Tyrrel's Wood by car (other than those walking through it as part of the Boudicca Way). The site is partly privately owned and partly owned by the Woodland Trust. Two public footpaths run through the site and part of the site falls in the Boudicca Way. It is a popular destination for dog walkers and also popular amongst children and family groups for informal play activities including den building. The southern part of the site that extends into the neighbouring parish is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the remaining part is a designated county wildlife site.
  - Wood Green - this site is closer to the settlement of Long Stratton also to the east and is accessed by foot as well as by car by Long Stratton residents. It is an extensive county wildlife site, a registered common, open access land and part of the Boudicca Way.
  - Further sites just outside the plan area boundary include Fritton Common SSSI to the east and Wacton Common to the south-west and Morningthorpe Green to the east.

### **Sports Facilities and Recreation**

- 2.32 There are many sports played by the residents of Long Stratton but the facilities in the town to enable games to be played are limited. The Manor Road playing field provides a multi-games area with an artificial surface which allows all-year-round use. There are also three football pitches which are well used by Long Stratton Football Club. The games area has tennis courts marked out but these are seldom used. There is a district council run leisure centre and there is a 3G football pitch in the high school ground which is administrated by South Norfolk Council.
- 2.33 There is no swimming pool in Long Stratton. There has previously been a small 15m training pool not open to the public but provided as part of the high school campus. The pool is currently closed as it is in need of expensive maintenance work.
- 2.34 In terms of open space provision accessible to the population, as shown in the table on page 19 (an extract from the Long Stratton AAP), the plan area is deficient in all types of open space. Accordingly, adopted Policy LINGS6 *Protecting Existing Recreation or Amenity Land in Long Stratton* in the Long Stratton AAP protects existing open space provision in the plan area and Policy LINGS7 *New Recreation Provision in Long Stratton*

requires developers to provide additional on-site public open space as part of the allocation for the delivery of 1,800 additional homes.

- 2.35 As part of its work on the Long Stratton AAP, South Norfolk calculated that the allocation of 1,800 new homes would need to provide up to 3 hectares of children's play space and 7.4 hectares of older children/adult open space.
- 2.36 As shown in the table, the plan area is deficient in children's play areas. The NP steering group consider they also need to be better maintained and controlled. Many are under the control of the district council, but talks are underway to move control to the town council.
- 2.37 Youth facilities are also limited in the NP area. There is an area of the Manor Road park that includes a skate park.



Figure 2.6 Skate park on Manor Road playing field (source: NP committee)

Open Space type	Recommended Standard (2007)	Provision in Long Stratton (2007)
Formal Open Space (formal parks, areas for community events and areas for sports/recreation – other than formal pitches)	0.98ha/1,000 population 46% quality rating	0.89ha/1,000 population Long Stratton Playing Fields: 74%
Formal sports (pitches, courts etc)	1.82ha/1,000 population 60% quality rating	0.82ha/1,000 population Long Stratton Playing Fields: 90%
Children's and Young People's play (equipped areas, skate parks etc)	1.98ha/1,000 population 60% quality rating	1.31ha/1,000 population Long Stratton Playing Fields: 75%
Amenity space (informal open space)	0.71ha/1,000 population 46% quality rating	0.4ha/1,000 population No sites rated
Natural/semi-natural green space (woodlands, commons, wildlife areas)	5.08ha/1,000 population 46% quality rating	1.11ha/1,000 population No sites rated
Allotments	0.11ha/1,000 population 60% quality rating	0.10ha/1,000 population No sites rated

Figure 2.7 - Long Stratton Open Space Provision. Extract from AAP (figures taken from South Norfolk PPG17 Open Spaces, Indoor sports and Community recreation assessment. Red text indicates a shortfall in provision and blue text indicates an over-provision).

- 2.38 South Norfolk's latest standards for recreational open spaces is set out in Table 3 of the Open Spaces SPD adopted in September 2018. The standards blend the previous standards (shown in the middle column of Figure 2.7) and are not easily directly comparable.

### Burial Grounds

- 2.39 As the town grows, it is expected there will be a need for additional burial ground facilities in the plan area.

### Transport

- 2.40 Long Stratton is dominated by the A140 which runs through the town bisecting the town in two. Congestion in Long Stratton occurs on a daily basis, the regular bottlenecks in the centre cause pollution for residents leading to a long running campaign for a by-pass. Traffic on the A140 includes through traffic as well as industrial traffic travelling to and from Tharston Industrial Estate, access to which is achieved through Flowerpot Lane which meets the A140 in the town centre.
- 2.41 The town is served by a regular bus service between Diss and Norwich during the day. During the evening, the service is less regular.

- 2.42 In the centre of the town, there is a public car park available for shoppers and visitors but due to a two hour limit is of limited use to workers.
- 2.43 It is without doubt that the volume, nature and location of traffic in the town centre presents challenges for residents needing to travel by foot, bicycle or mobility scooters. The difficulties are further exacerbated by narrow pavement widths (as narrow as 81.2cm outside the dentist). Notwithstanding these challenges it is evident that many residents walk around the town. This includes many school children crossing the A140 on their daily journey to school<sup>11</sup>.



Figure 2.8: narrow pavement width measured as 81.2cm outside the dentist on The Street (source: NP committee)

- 2.44 There are no dedicated cycle routes in Long Stratton.
- 2.45 Outside the town centre, there is an ancient network of lanes, especially to the east, which allow access to the countryside by bicycle. There are also well-established footpaths, leading off Norwich Road, Edges Lane, Star Lane and Parkers Lane to the countryside to the east. These routes follow those shown on some of the earliest maps of Norfolk such as William Faden's 1797 map.

### Transport and Air Quality

- 2.46 There are no Air Quality Management Areas in the district of South Norfolk. However, annual mean concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> along the A140 in Long Stratton are close to breaching recognised air quality standards. In fulfilment of the Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 *Local Air Quality Management*, the district monitors air pollution in seven locations along the A140 in the town centre including one location at the northern (bus stop) and one location at the southern (funeral directors) extent of the town. NO<sub>2</sub> emissions during the period 2013 to 2017 (annual mean concentrations) appear to range from 23 ug/m<sup>3</sup> to as high as 38 ug/m<sup>3</sup>. In monitoring stations along The Street in the town centre NO<sub>2</sub> emissions are consistently higher and ranged between 36.1 to 37.23 ug/m<sup>3</sup> in 2013, 2014 and 2017.

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<sup>11</sup> At a school consultation held in October 2018, 50 out of 108 secondary school children said they walked to school, 53 said they travelled by bus, 1 travelled by bike and just 14 travelled by car to school



- 2.47 Poor air quality along the A140 is a primary reason for the district's commitment towards delivering the Long Stratton bypass. If the bypass was not to be delivered, air quality improvement measures would be essential in order to achieve and maintain an adequate quality of life in Long Stratton town centre.
- 2.48 The NO<sub>2</sub> emissions are reported annually by South Norfolk Council in the Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR) which are available to view at [www.southnorfolk.gov.uk](http://www.southnorfolk.gov.uk).

## Employment and Economy

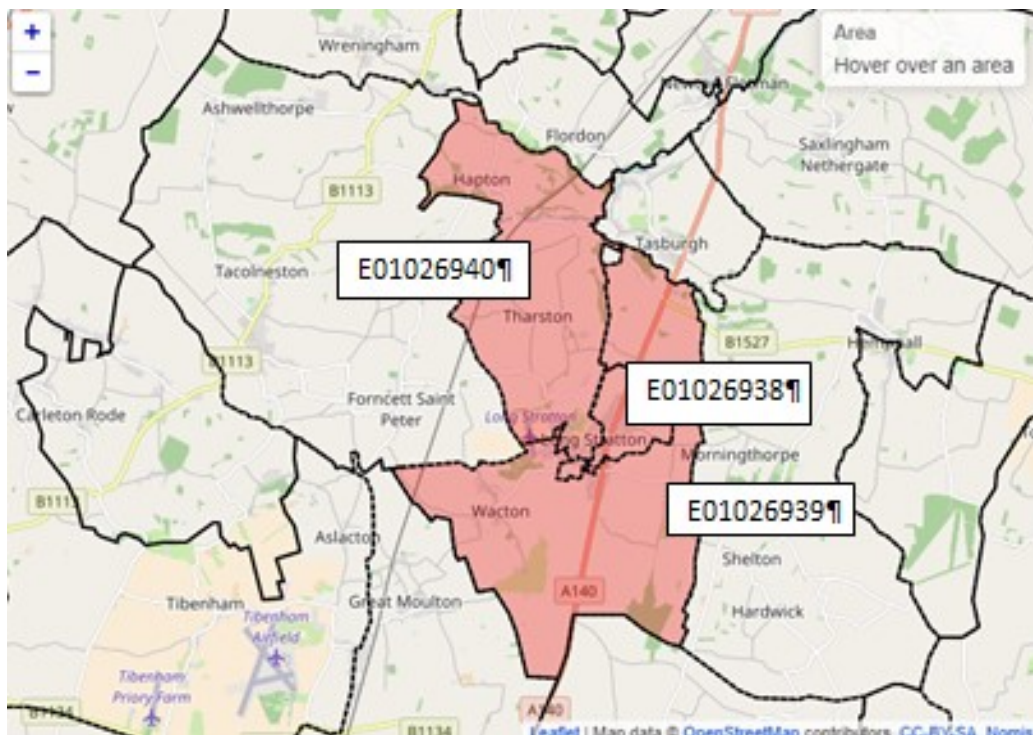


FIGURE 2.9 - LONG STRATTON WARD 2017

- 2.49 Economic data for the NP area is most easily analysed at the ward level which includes the parishes of Long Stratton, Wacton and Tharston & Hapton – see Figure 2.9<sup>12</sup>.
- 2.50 Long Stratton is a net exporter of labour (more people travel out to work than travel in). Nevertheless, the majority of Long Stratton employed residents work within Long Stratton, elsewhere within South Norfolk or commute to Norwich. Likewise, in-commuters to Long Stratton do not typically travel far.
- 2.51 Economic activity rates are high in Long Stratton. This is due to higher levels of employment rather than unemployment as well as higher rates among women. There is a relatively low propensity for Long Stratton ward residents to work in managerial and professional roles in comparison with South Norfolk. Stratton ward has a higher

<sup>12</sup> It is noted the Stratton Ward boundary was later revised in 2018.  
<http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/eastern/norfolk/south-norfolk>

proportion of employed residents working in ‘administrative & secretarial roles’, ‘skilled trades’, ‘caring, leisure and other service occupations’ and ‘sales and customer services.’

- 2.52 In terms of employment based in the Long Stratton ward, the largest employment sector in Stratton ward is wholesale & retail which in part reflects the ‘market town’ shopping role that Long Stratton plays. Recent survey evidence suggests that Long Stratton is functioning well.<sup>13</sup> Vacancy rates have been constantly low in recent years and well below the Norfolk average. Comparison retailers and leisure services are the predominant businesses but there has been an increase in all business types between 2013 and 2015 which possibly reflects renewed business confidence both in current trading and future activity as a result of planned housing growth.

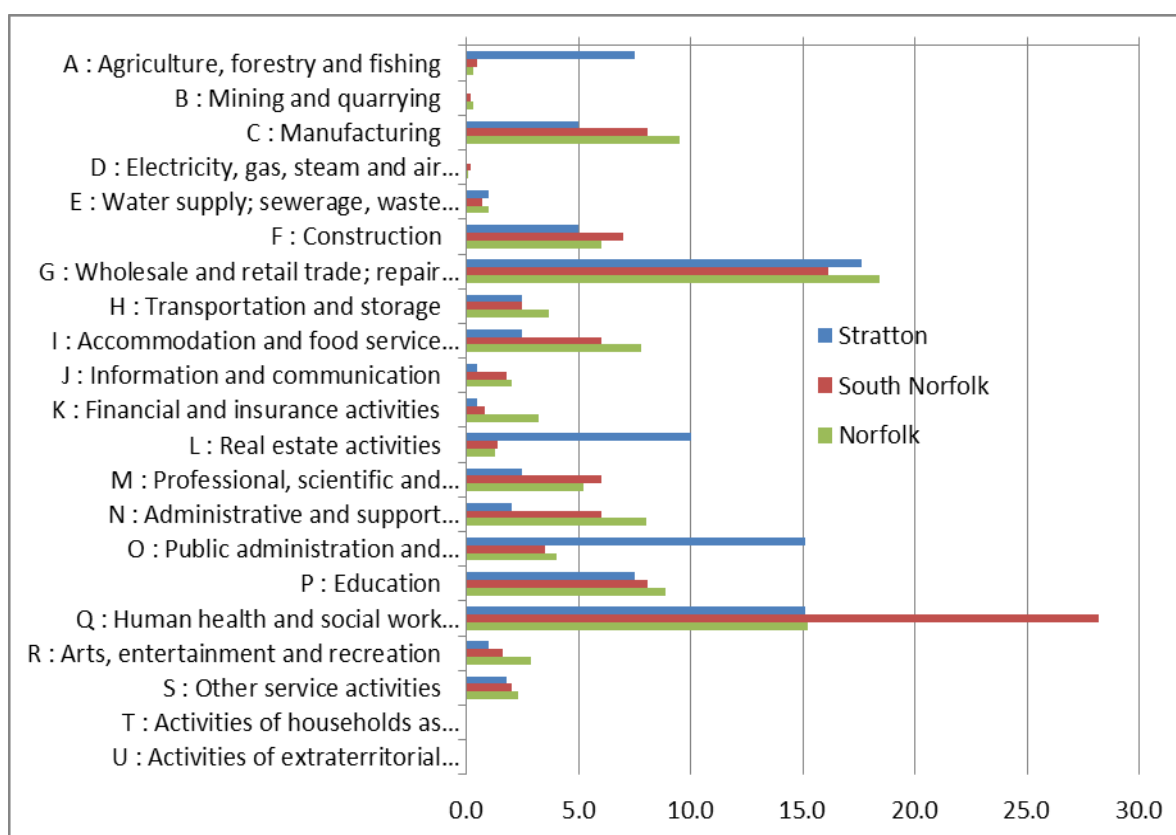


FIGURE 2.10- EMPLOYEES IN EMPLOYMENT BY SECTOR, STRATTON WARD 2015

*Figure 2.10 Note: This data is workplace based. Employment is allocated to the geography where the job is based rather than where the job holder lives.*

*Source: Nomis (BRES) as reported in the Long Stratton 2017 DSE Review*

- 2.53 Other significant sectors include public administration, health & social work and real estate activities. The figure above compares the employment structure of Long Stratton

<sup>13</sup> ‘Market Towns Report 2015’, Norfolk County Council, September 2015

ward with South Norfolk and Norfolk. It highlights the disproportional importance of real estate activities, public administration and agriculture to the local economy.<sup>14</sup>

- 2.54 The Long Stratton AAP includes the allocation of 9.5 hectares of local employment opportunities and identifies the site west of Tharston Industrial Estate as part of this.

### **Town Centre**

- 2.55 Long Stratton town has a wide range of retail and community facilities and acts as a service centre for surrounding villages. As noted in the AAP, the number of shops and services is already high for a settlement of this size, making it close in function to a market town.

- 2.56 There are some sites in the town centre that are located in the Long Stratton town centre boundary (as defined in the adopted AAP) that are vacant and presenting opportunities for comprehensive development where this would enhance the commercial centre of Long Stratton. This includes the fire station/telephone exchange area on Swan Lane and properties interspersed within the town centre boundary.



Figure 2.11 Vacant stores in the centre of Long Stratton  
(source: NP committee)

- 2.57 Currently the volume and type of traffic along the A140 impacts adversely (through noise, vibrations, fumes, dust) on the quality of the public realm in the town centre. The A140 is also a barrier to pedestrian movement in and around the town centre.
- 2.58 The Long Stratton by-pass would provide an opportunity to increase the quality of the public realm in the town centre and is an excellent opportunity to enhance the setting of the Long Stratton Conservation Area and all the heritage assets in it.
- 2.59 The removal of high volumes of traffic along the A140 in itself will help but if opportunities are to be fully realised physical improvements in layout, furniture and street scene also needs to take place. The Long Stratton Masterplanning Report undertaken in January 2018 looks specifically at such measures.

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<sup>14</sup> Most agricultural related employment is excluded from BRES. The employment recorded here falls under the category 'farm animal boarding and care' which is presumably predominantly stable yards

### 3. KEY ISSUES

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#### 3 This section of the plan:

- Describes the priority issues shared by the community as identified in early engagement work in March 2017 and the summer of 2017.
- Includes the SWOT analysis prepared by the NP steering group as a way of building a shared consensus or key priority concerns.
- Summarises the existing planning policy context for the NP area. The existing planning policy context provides important background to the NP and it is essential the NP adds to that context rather than duplicate it.

#### Early Engagement

- 3.1 Early engagement with the community of the NP area started in March 2017. A leaflet was delivered to all residents in the NP area to raise awareness of the NP work but also to seek input from residents in terms of what they like, what they don't like and what should be done to improve the plan area. Drop-in events were also held over three days in March 2017.
- 3.2 A survey was posted online using survey monkey and residents were invited to respond in paper version or online.
- 3.3 The engagement continued throughout the summer of 2017 and further events were held.
- 3.4 Data was extracted from survey monkey twice; once in May 2017 (at which point 159 responses had been collated) and once in August 2017 (at which point a further 91 responses had been collated.)
- 3.5 The details of all consultation activity is available in the Consultation Statement accompanying this submission plan. The following table provides an overview of the main messages.



Figure 3.1- March 2017 early public engagement event (source: NP committee)

<b>What residents most liked</b>
• Proximity/ease of access to Norwich
• Proximity/ease of access to countryside
• Good schools
• Good bus service
• Good facilities incl. GPs, shops, schools
• Strong/friendly community
• Good transport links
<b>What residents least liked</b>
• A140 traffic (including noise, fumes, impact on residential amenity and quality of the public realm in the town centre)
• Limited shopping facilities
• Limited leisure facilities
• Narrow pavements along A140 creating poor accessibility for those with mobility scooters or pushchairs children etc
• Not enough for young people to do
• More difficult to get a doctor's appointment
• Impact of anticipated development on infrastructure e.g. health facilities
<b>What could be improved</b>
• Building of the A140 by-pass
• More sports facilities including swimming pool
• More for young people to do
• Increase capacity of doctor's surgery
• A large community centre
• Better pedestrian links throughout the town
• Provide a 6 <sup>th</sup> form in the town

- 3.6 In all the consultation results it was very clear that the vast majority of residents were very concerned about traffic on the A140 which runs through the town and supported the building of the by-pass. The building of the by-pass has however been addressed through existing planning policy and there is no need for the Long Stratton NP to include policies on this.
- 3.7 A further popular issue raised at early engagement stage was a widely shared aspiration for a swimming pool to be built in Long Stratton. As recorded in the Consultation Statement, this is an issue that continued to be raised throughout the plan preparation process.
- 3.8 The NP steering group used the early consultation results in 2017 to identify the strengths in the NP area that should be protected, weaknesses that need to be addressed, the threats to the strengths and which could exacerbate any weaknesses and any opportunities for improvement. This is shown in Figure 3.2.

Long Stratton SWOT Analysis	
Strengths	Threats
<p>Key strengths that came across particularly strongly in early community engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frequent bus services</li> <li>• Choice of shops</li> <li>• Close to countryside</li> <li>• Access to Norwich</li> </ul> <p>Other key strengths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools</li> <li>• Library</li> <li>• Peaceful</li> <li>• Friendly/sense of community</li> <li>• Good facilities</li> <li>• Doctor's training centre</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to countryside adversely impacted upon by by-pass? E.g. pedestrian access to St Michaels</li> <li>• Sense of community weakened with growth?</li> <li>• There is a fear that the new housing will not be suitable for meeting existing local housing needs</li> <li>• Fear that opportunities to improve town centre (following building of the by-pass) will not be realised</li> </ul>
Weaknesses	Opportunities
<p>Key weaknesses that came across particularly strongly in early community engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A140 traffic and need for a by-pass</li> </ul> <p>Other recognised weaknesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hempnall crossing needs improvement</li> <li>• Noise outside some town centre uses at night time</li> <li>• Lack of safe pedestrian crossing on A140 south of the village</li> <li>• Overstretched doctors</li> <li>• No evening bus services</li> <li>• No swimming pool</li> <li>• New or expanded community centre/village hall facilities are needed</li> <li>• Dog fouling</li> <li>• Parking issues at shops etc</li> <li>• Lack of bank</li> <li>• Lack of leisure facilities and outdoor sports facilities</li> <li>• Schools need improving</li> <li>• There is no sixth form college</li> <li>• Need more affordable social housing</li> <li>• Need more varied housing</li> <li>• Need affordable properties to rent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building of the bypass will address key issue</li> </ul> <p>Others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved bus services when population grows?</li> <li>• Secure new community centre/village hall as population grows</li> <li>• Ensure that when housing comes forward it comprises type and tenure suitable for meeting existing local needs</li> <li>• Opportunity to secure new outdoor sports facilities</li> <li>• Town Centre improvements</li> </ul>
Figure 3.2: Long Stratton SWOT Analysis	



## Mid-term engagement

3.9 In the summer and autumn of 2018, the Neighbourhood Plan steering group published a draft Neighbourhood Plan vision, emerging themes, objectives, together with a completed Long Stratton Masterplanning report and a completed draft housing needs assessment. The purpose of the consultation was to raise awareness of the ongoing work on the plan (following early consultation on key issues in 2017) as well as seeking input from the wider community and other stakeholders on the proposed direction of the plan.

3.10 The feedback received during the summer and autumn of 2018, confirmed the NP steering group had good coverage of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. The consultation did however result in more detail being provided from the wider community with regard to future aspirations for the town centre. This is described in the paragraphs below.

3.10.1 Suggestions included:

- prioritising the planting of trees and grassy areas, in particular planting local tree species that are endangered, e.g. The Black Poplar, as trees would take time to reach maturity it would be important to establish these first
- leave some natural countryside in the town
- to have tree lined walkways and paths that are comfortable to walk on, quiet spaces to relax in, seating, garden beds and cycle routes
- seating outside cafes and pubs with screening from the road
- a local vegetable garden that the community can work at

3.10.2 During consultation exercises with school pupils, suggestions from pupils included:

- another park but with a running track
- a nature reserve and public gardens with fruit trees
- replicating the old Norfolk villages where homes are situated around an area of common land, so having new commons, giving people a stake in caring for their environment

3.10.3 On the issue of creating pedestrianised areas, responses included a preference for the A140 between Flowerpot Lane and Swan Lane and the A140 between Hall Lane and Flowerpot Lane to create a communal area between St Mary's Church and the village hall.



Figure 3.3 Possible pedestrianised area between Flowerpot Lane and Swan Lane (source: NP committee)

3.10.4 When asked if we should have a market place, twice as many comments were in favour than against. Some of those in favour suggested it should be where the Fire



Station and Telephone exchange is now but to landscape it with grassy banks, trees and bushes and outdoor seating, possibly a bandstand and water features. Some of the comments for those against were that there was little demand as a car park would need to be requisitioned for it. Others suggested it would be fine so long as historic buildings were preserved. One suggested a historic walk in the town with guide signs.

3.10.5 With regard to pedestrian safety, safe crossings at the A140 and Flowerpot Lane junction and a crossing opposite the Co-op were mentioned, including zebra crossings.

3.10.6 In answer to the question “What features of local importance need protecting?” people suggested:

- the village life as it is and the ‘village feel’ in the town needs protecting
- historic listed buildings
- the churches especially St Mary’s and the village hall
- one comment referred to ensuring we give historic buildings a use e.g.: “What about helping to make St Mary’s Church more suitable for community and support use?” Another suggestion was that the church could be used for concerts and exhibitions
- protect the windmill
- protect the public toilets in the centre of the village
- protect The Plain
- green spaces were identified as needing protection including wildlife areas meadows and wetlands, as well as individual trees
- the dark skies were mentioned as needing protection by taking care on the type and frequency of street lighting

3.10.7 One comment that came up in many places referred to the need to preserve the ancient footpaths that go from the centre of the town to the surrounding countryside and the communities that are served by them.

### Existing planning policy context

3.11 The existing planning policy context for the NP area is described in the following paragraphs.

3.12 The Joint Core Strategy adopted in March 2011 covers the period up to 2026 and includes:

- The key diagram which identifies Long Stratton as a Key Service Centre, a location for major housing growth and the Long Stratton bypass
- Policy 10 - **Locations for major new or expanded communities in the Norwich Policy Area** sets out specific requirements for Long Stratton and includes in this the delivery of:
  - Long Stratton bypass
  - Minimum of 1,800 dwellings identifying the full level and phasing of growth to be dependent on overcoming sewerage constraints

- Improvements to the town centre including traffic management, environmental enhancement and expanded facilities
- High school provision to be provided in, or by the expansion of the existing school
- Investment in strategic green infrastructure corridor reflecting and conserving the ancient landscape to the east of the village
- Transport improvements including bus priority at the A140/A47 junction and an enhanced route to the city centre
- Safe and direct cycle and pedestrian access to the town centre and employment locations
- Additional employment opportunities



- 3.13 The Long Stratton Area Action Plan (AAP) was adopted in 2016 and provides a planning framework for the delivery of housing (minimum of 1,800 homes), green infrastructure and transport infrastructure as required in Policy 10 of the Joint Core Strategy. The AAP includes the following vision which forms the basis of the detailed policies and proposals.

*“Long Stratton – a revitalised large village based around its historic linear street pattern and Conservation Area, growing and building on its existing broad range of jobs and services into a thriving small town. The delivery of a bypass will enable a safer and more inviting town centre with increased shops and services and an enhanced Conservation Area”*

- 3.14 Policy LNGS1 in the AAP– **Land East, South-East and North-West of Long Stratton:**
- allocates 140.1 hectares of land for housing, employment, a bypass and associated infrastructure for the purpose of delivering a minimum of 1,800 new homes and 9.5 hectares of local employment opportunities. The policy specifies that 1,200 dwellings and 8 hectares of employment land are to be accommodated to the east and south-east of Long Stratton and the remaining 600 homes and 1.5 hectares of employment land are to be accommodated to the north-west of Long Stratton;
  - specifies that before any housing is permitted there shall be a phasing and delivery mechanism in place that will secure the delivery of the bypass and that the bypass will be delivered prior to the occupation of the 250<sup>th</sup> new dwelling (subject to viability);

- requires delivery of other necessary road infrastructure (e.g. Hempnall crossroads) early in the development;
- regarding employment uses, the policy stipulates that uses generating significant volumes of traffic/or HGV movements to have direct access to the bypass;
- regarding education infrastructure, the policy requires at least 2 hectares for new two form entry primary school and 60 place pre-school;
- regarding open space, the policy requires links between village and countryside to east of bypass corridor to be enhanced. The policy specifies a buffer to waste water recycling centre and for this to be utilised as green infrastructure;
- regarding design, the policy seeks for development to sustain and improve the distinctive character of the Long Stratton and to be of a scale and form which respects and enhances the conservation area; the bypass and green infrastructure provision to the east of Long Stratton to respect and reflect the key features identified in the Historic Landscape Characterisation and Sensitivity Assessment; and the bypass will be designed as an integral part of the wider development in order to achieve a high quality environment. Additionally, the existing grid patterns of lanes to the east of Long Stratton is to be retained.

- 3.15 Policy LINGS2 in the AAP **Land West of Tharston Industrial Estate** is a site allocation which identifies land west of Tharston Industrial Estate suitable for accommodating employment opportunities and economic growth. The policy also requires maximisation of walking and cycling opportunities; phasing of the land in agreement with Anglian Water regarding resolution of wastewater management issues; vehicular access from Salamanca Road and direct from Stratton Motor Company site; retention or diversion of footpath and design and landscaping.
- 3.16 Policy LINGS3 in the AAP **Town Centre Policy** defines a town centre boundary for Long Stratton and allows for new town centre uses to come forward in the centre. The policy also defines a primary shopping area within which loss of A1 (shops) will be resisted if this were to lead to an over concentration of non-A1 uses. The policy has a generic requirement stating that as part of any proposal opportunities should be sought to enhance the character and appearance of the town centre, taking into account the 2013 Conservation Area Statement.
- 3.17 Policy LINGS4 in the AAP **Sequential Approach and impact assessment for Provision in Long Stratton** clarifies that in the event of proposals for new retail units outside the town centre boundary, a sequential assessment and impact assessment will be required. The purpose of this policy is to resist any retail developments which undermine the vitality and attractiveness of Long Stratton town centre.
- 3.18 Policy LINGS5 in the AAP **General Infrastructure requirements for new developments within Long Stratton AAP Area** provides general green infrastructure principles for any additional developments that come forward during the plan period. The AAP includes a green infrastructure map (Appendix 3) which, whilst not directly referred to in the policy, identifies the necessary green infrastructure requirements for new development.

- 3.19 Policy LINGS6 in the AAP **Protecting Existing Recreation or Amenity Land in Long Stratton** protects existing recreation and amenity land in Long Stratton.
- 3.20 Policy LINGS7 in the AAP **New Recreation Provision in Long Stratton** requires developers to provide new on-site public open space provision commensurate with the level of development proposed as well as green infrastructure to help create a network of safe movement around the urban environment of Long Stratton. No specific standards are referred to in the policy but paragraph 9.8 of the AAP states that 1,800 new homes are calculated to trigger a need for 3 hectares of children's play space and 7.4 hectares of older children/adult open space.
- 3.21 Policy LINGS8 in the AAP **Land for a new burial ground in Long Stratton** allows for new burial ground proposals subject to criteria.
- 3.22 Policy LINGS9 in the AAP **Accessibility** requires that development maximises permeability for pedestrians and cyclists by improving access to/from existing and new key services and facilities. The policy seeks layout of developments to allow for easy circulation of buses and bus prioritisation measures on the A140.

#### **Current developer proposal**

- 3.23 In January 2018, Norfolk Homes Ltd submitted a planning application on 45.2 hectares of land to the west of the A140 seeking outline planning consent for 387 dwellings and 1.5 hectares of Class B1 employment land, associated infrastructure and public open space. The application is a hybrid application which also seeks full planning consent for a western relief road (including a roundabout access at the north to the A140 and a priority junction access to Swan Lane at the south) and with phase 1 housing consisting of 213 dwellings, associated infrastructure and public open space.
- 3.24 Also in January 2018, Norfolk Land Ltd submitted a planning application on 109.7 hectares of land to the east of the A140 seeking outline planning permission for 1,275 dwellings, 8 hectares of employment land for uses within Classes B1, B2 and B8, 2 hectare primary school site, community facilities site, associated infrastructure and public open space. As with the Norfolk Homes Ltd application, this application is also a hybrid one which also seeks full permission for a bypass including roundabouts and junctions.
- 3.25 Since the submission of the planning applications, the district council and the developers have been working on site details and engaging with statutory consultees in the process of doing this. This includes the drafting of a Design Code by the developers which establishes broad principles to be followed across the site which is subject to strategic site allocation LINGS1 in the adopted AAP.
- 3.26 At the time of writing the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) is in preparation. This is being prepared by Broadland District Council, Norwich City Council and South Norfolk Council. The GNLP will replace the current Joint Core Strategy for the area. The Joint Core Strategy plans for the area up to 2026 where as the GNLP will ensure needs continue to be met to 2038. The Regulation 18 GNLP does not allocate additional

development in Long Stratton beyond the current strategic site allocation set out in the Long Stratton Area Action Plan. Neither does the Regulation 18 GNLP propose to supersede the Long Stratton Area Action Plan.

### **Priorities for the NP**

- 3.27 Having considered the key issues highlighted during early consultation, the existing policy context provided by the Joint Core Strategy and the Long Stratton AAP, the key areas which the Neighbourhood Plan must focus on are:

**Priority 1** - Address housing choice and seek to ensure new housing is suitable for meeting existing needs as well as needs of future residents (to address the fear identified in Figure 3.2 that the new housing coming forward as part of the Area Action Plan development will not be suitable for meeting Long Stratton specific needs).

**Priority 2** - Be focused on retaining those characteristics that make Long Stratton special. This includes its rural feel, heritage and biodiversity assets (to manage the threat identified in Figure 3.2 that the current sense of identity and community will weaken when new development comes forward and respond to community feedback summarised in paragraph 3.10.6).

**Priority 3** - Include planning policies on employment and seek to facilitate opportunities for providing skills development training to residents (to address the threat identified in Figure 3.2 that the current sense of identity and community will weaken when new development comes forward and ensure the current local population are able to benefit from new employment growth identified in Policy LNGS2 in the Area Action Plan).

**Priority 4** - Plan for successful integration of new communities with existing communities and plan for infrastructure to be provided alongside new development (to address the threat identified in Figure 3.2 that the current sense of identity and community will weaken when new development comes forward and address identified weaknesses regarding existing community infrastructure provision (overstretched doctors, no swimming pool, need for new or expanded community centre/village hall facilities, parking issues at shops, lack of leisure facilities and outdoor sports facilities)).

**Priority 5** - Highlight existing shortages in community infrastructure and highlight shortages anticipated as new development comes forward (to address the threat identified in Figure 3.2 that the current sense of identity and community will weaken when new development comes forward and address identified weaknesses regarding existing community infrastructure provision (overstretched doctors, no swimming pool, need for new or expanded community centre/village hall facilities, parking issues at shops, lack of leisure facilities and outdoor sports facilities)).

**Priority 6** - Look at improving accessibility to and from shops and services in the town centre (to address the weaknesses identified in Figure 3.2 regarding the A140).

**Priority 7** - Provide more detail than the LSAAP in terms of a vision for the town centre once the by-pass has come forward (to address the threat identified in Figure 3.2 that opportunities to improve the town centre will not be realised).

**Priority 8** - Secure economic success in Long Stratton as the settlement grows. This priority is linked to Priority 3 and 4 and reflects Long Stratton's economic role in relation

to Norwich but also in relation to its 'market town' role with respect to its surrounding rural hinterland (as described in paragraph 2.49 to 2.54).



FIGURE 3.5 – Poor pedestrian environment A140 looking south into town centre (source: NP committee)

- 3.28 In addition to the eight priorities expressed above, the Neighbourhood Plan must also meet the basic conditions required of it by legislation. These basic conditions are explained in the introduction to this plan. We have therefore identified two important cross-cutting priorities which emanate from these basic conditions:

**Cross Cutting Priority A: - Take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change** (as required by paragraph 149 of the NPPF).

**Cross Cutting Priority B: - Contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development** (as required by the basic conditions but also by reference to paragraph 16 of the NPPF).

## 4. VISION AND OBJECTIVES

- 4 As a response to the issues identified in Chapter 3, the following vision has been drafted for the Neighbourhood Plan.

"Long Stratton village will grow into a town but a village feel will be retained. Long Stratton will keep its close links to the surrounding countryside and the characterful feel of the enclosed historic centre will be strengthened not just as a result of reduced through-traffic but due to physical improvements which can take place once the by-pass has been built.

Our strong sense of place in the Neighbourhood Plan area will grow as the new development is designed sensitively and reflect Long Stratton and Tharston's existing characteristics. Pedestrian and cycle access between existing estates and the shops, services and areas of employment will be improved whilst the new development will be designed to encompass pedestrian and cycle access to the town centre. We will have a vibrant, mixed and balanced community. Our employment and business base will grow and diversify as the town takes on a more strategic role in the wider geographic area. New housing developments will provide a varied and wide housing choice ensuring the needs of existing communities will be met alongside those of future residents"

- 4.1 The Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan Group initially worked with their planning consultant, Modicum Planning, to develop a set of plan themes and objectives which could address the concerns addressed by the community whilst also being within the scope of a Neighbourhood Plan to address. These were first consulted on during the summer and autumn of 2018. Objective 8 did not initially appear as part of earlier consultation in 2018. It is identified by the NP steering group as an important component of the Long Stratton vision which seeks that *'our employment and business base will grow and diversify as the town takes on a more strategic role in the wider geographic area'*.

- 4.2 The final and agreed themes and objectives are set out in the table 4.1 below.

Theme	Objective	What does this mean?
<b>A Strong Community</b>	<b>1. Housing that is built should be suitable for meeting needs of existing and future NP area residents</b>	<p>The Housing Needs Assessment that looks specifically at needs arising from Long Stratton itself during the period up to 2026 tells us this means:</p> <p>1.1 During the period 2018 to 2026, 408 of the homes to be of size and tenure to meet Long Stratton needs</p> <p>1.2 Provision of at least 132 affordable homes during the period 2018 to 2026 specifically for NP area residents</p> <p>1.3 Development to include sizeable proportion of private rental housing (to meet needs of the 50% of households that can't afford a typical mortgage at 2016 prices)</p> <p>1.4 A high proportion of all houses to be 2-3 bedrooms</p> <p>1.5 Provision of specialist housing totalling 126 units</p>



Theme	Objective	What does this mean?
	<b>2. Successful integration between new community and existing community where new community facilities are located in sustainable locations and which facilitates good cycle and pedestrian connectivity</b>	<p>The following elements which all feature in other themes:</p> <p>2.1 Excellent pedestrian permeability within neighbourhoods, between neighbourhoods and from residential areas to town centre</p> <p>2.2 Good provision of shared open spaces, recreation and community facilities</p> <p>2.3 Good distribution of community facilities throughout the plan area</p> <p>2.4 A vibrant town centre</p>
<b>Design and Character</b>	<b>3. A strong sense of place incorporating sustainable design</b>	<p>3.1 Retain and enhance those characteristics that make Long Stratton special. Based on existing studies such as the South Norfolk Place Making Guide and the Long Stratton Conservation Character Appraisal this would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening the character of the historic core and prioritising the conservation or enhancement of historic buildings</li> <li>• Outside the historic core, high quality and locally distinctive neighbourhoods</li> <li>• New perimeter of Long Stratton to provide attractive setting to the settlement</li> <li>• Protecting ancient countryside beyond new settlement boundaries</li> </ul> <p>3.2 Ensuring new development delivers high quality and sustainable design that adds to the overall quality of Long Stratton and is sympathetic to Long Stratton's character and history</p>
<b>Employment</b>	<b>4. Long Stratton's employment and business base will grow and diversify as it takes on a more strategic role in the wider regional market</b>	<p>4.1 Increase employment base</p> <p>4.2 Increase opportunities for small business</p> <p>4.3 No or significantly reduce industrial traffic through town</p> <p>4.4 Explore how opportunities for appropriate skills and training can be opened up to NP area residents</p>
<b>Town Centre</b>	<b>5. Opportunities to enhance the town centre will be realised</b>	<p>5.1 The public realm in the town centre will be improved. For example, through the creation of a market place</p> <p>5.2. Improved pedestrian safety across and along the A140. For example, through the measures proposed in the Long Stratton masterplanning work</p> <p>5.3 Increased vegetation along the A140</p> <p>5.4 Improve infrastructure for cyclists along the A140</p>

Theme	Objective	What does this mean?
<b>Outdoor Recreation, Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity Policies</b>	<b>6. Improved opportunities for green infrastructure and recreation in the NP area</b>	6.1 Open space provision to meet needs of population/increase in quantity and quality 6.2 Outdoor recreation facilities will have been improved 6.3 Outdoor sports facilities will have been improved 6.4 Open space infrastructure will be distributed throughout settlement
<b>Indoor Community Infrastructure</b>	<b>7. Infrastructure necessary to support the growing community will come forward in a timely manner</b>	7.1 Identify the need for a new community centre/village hall as community grows 7.2 Continue to work with health providers to understand future space requirements and where they are and support provision through the plan if applicable 7.3 Work with education providers to understand future needs. Support provision of this through the NP
<b>Superfast Broadband</b>	<b>8. The most technically advanced communications infrastructure to be in place to serve Long Stratton's growing resident and business community</b>	8.1 For all new development coming forward as part of the Long Stratton strategic site allocation (Policy LNGS1 in the AAP), Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) to be installed. All other proposals to receive superfast broadband via Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC)

### How this plan contributes towards achieving sustainable development

- 4.3 All Neighbourhood Plans are required by the basic conditions to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development. Paragraph 8 of the NPPF states that *"achieving sustainable development means the planning system has three overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways."* It goes on to define these three objectives as economic, social and environmental.

**Economic Goal:** The Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan works within the strategic context established by the 2016 Area Action Plan that includes a strategic site allocation for 1,800 new homes in the plan. The plan focuses on ensuring this growth can happen successfully by prioritising the growth and diversification of Long Stratton's employment and business base as it takes on a more strategic role in the wider regional area and by prioritising the success of Long Stratton town centre, especially once the bypass has been built.

**Social Goal:** A key principle underpinning the Long Stratton NP is to ensure the existing Long Stratton community will also benefit from the housing that is built recognising the existing Long Stratton need for housing (as evidenced in the Long Stratton Housing Needs Assessment) and existing need for more affordable homes. This will assist with successful integration of new and existing neighbourhoods. The Long Stratton NP identifies additional community infrastructure items (e.g. a new centrally located community meeting space or hub to address a range of existing but growing demand

from community groups and services including the library) which it considers essential for the delivery of successful places. Key to the creation of successful communities is maintaining and enhancing sense of place. The policies underpinning theme Design and Character are focused on addressing this priority.

**Environmental Goal:** Whilst the strategic context provided by the Long Stratton Area Action Plan is one of growth, the Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan does prioritise the delivery of development which accords with sustainability principles (see Policy DC10) as provided in the Long Stratton Design Principles document. The Neighbourhood Plan has also identified existing areas within the plan area which are important for biodiversity and seeks to protect them as well as seeking to secure and enhance existing green infrastructure.

### **How this plan takes a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change**

- 4.4 The Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan is very much focused on reducing the need to travel by private vehicles and improving pedestrian and cycle links in the town centre and securing good pedestrian and cycle connections as part of new development, with particular regard for the strategic site allocation for 1,800 new homes. With regards to the town centre the emphasis is very much on improving the safety and street scene environment (including tree planting and greening the urban environment) along and in the vicinity of The Street. Outside the town centre, the emphasis is on ensuring new community facilities are located where residents can access them through public transport, walking or cycling. The protection and enhancement of green infrastructure to benefit both people but also biodiversity is the subject of policies under theme Outdoor recreation, green infrastructure and biodiversity.
- 4.5 Chapter 6 in the Neighbourhood Plan includes a community aspiration to work with stakeholders to seek a renewable energy scheme in the plan area where the scheme does not impact adversely on landscape character and where schemes deliver community benefits such as tariffs from the energy generated.
- 4.6 In reviewing the policies set out in this Neighbourhood Plan it is very important to regard the policies against strategic planning policies set out in the South Norfolk Local Plan as well as against national planning policy (set out in the NPPF) and national guidance set out in national planning practice guidance. As required in paragraph 16 of the NPPF, the Neighbourhood Plan should serve a clear purpose, avoiding unnecessary duplication of policies that apply to the plan area already.
- 4.7 The following table No.4.2 illustrates the link between the plan theme and objectives on the one hand and the priorities on the other – The table also shows how the planning policies (see Chapter 5) and the community aspirations (see Chapter 6) are linked to the objectives and priorities.

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Linked Priority (paragraph 3.27)</b>	<b>Linked Policy (see Chapter 5)</b>	<b>Linked Community Aspiration (see Chapter 6)</b>
A Strong Community	1. Housing that is built should be suitable for meeting needs of existing and future NP residents	Priority 1 Cross Cutting Priority B (sustainable development)	Policy SC1 – Housing mix  Policy SC1 – Specialist and supported housing  Policy SC3 – Affordable homes meeting Long Stratton needs	Paragraph 6.2.ix
	2. Successful integration between new community and existing community	Priority 2 Priority 3 Priority 4 Priority 5 Priority 6 Priority 7 Cross Cutting Priority A (climate change) Cross Cutting Priority B (sustainable development)	Policy SC4 – Pedestrian and cycle friendly neighbourhoods  Policy SC5 – Maintaining good connectivity with outlying areas  Policy SC6 – Location of new community facilities	Paragraph 6.2.ii, Paragraph 6.2.x, Paragraph 6.2.iv, Paragraph 6.3 and Paragraph 6.4
Design and Character	3. A strong sense of place	Priority 1 Priority 2 Cross Cutting Priority A (climate change) Cross Cutting Priority B (sustainable development)	Policy DC7 – Landscape and settlement character  Policy DC8 – Creating successful neighbourhoods  Policy DC9 Strengthening and enhancing Long Stratton's historic core  Policy DC10 – Long Stratton design principles  Also, Policy G119 – Protecting existing sites of biodiversity value in the plan area	Paragraph 6.2.v and Paragraph 6.2.ii
Employment	4. Long Stratton's employment and business base will grow and diversify as it takes on a more strategic	Priority 3 Priority 4 Cross Cutting Priority B (sustainable development)	Policy E11 – New employment uses in Tharston  Policy E12 – Training Long Stratton's local workforce	Paragraph 6.2.vi and Paragraph 6.3.i

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Linked Priority (paragraph 3.27)</b>	<b>Linked Policy (see Chapter 5)</b>	<b>Linked Community Aspiration (see Chapter 6)</b>
	role in the wider market			
Town Centre	5. Opportunities to enhance the town centre will be realised	Priority 6 Priority 7 Cross Cutting Priority A (climate change) Cross Cutting Priority B (sustainable development)	Policy TC13 – Re-establishing The Street as the heart of the Town  Policy TC14 – Long Stratton Market Place  Policy TC15 – The Fire Station and Telephone Exchange	Paragraph 6.2.i, Paragraph 6.2.iii and Paragraph 6.2.iv
Outdoor recreation Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity	6. Improve opportunities for green infrastructure and recreation in the NP area	Priority 5 Priority 4 Priority 2 Cross Cutting Priority A (climate change) Cross Cutting Priority B (sustainable development)	Policy GI16 – Long Stratton Recreational Open Space standards  Policy GI17 Delivering Green Infrastructure in Long Stratton  GI18 – Green Infrastructure Management  GI19- Protecting Existing sites of biodiversity value in the plan area	Paragraph 6.2.ii, Paragraph 6.2.iv, Paragraph 6.2.v and Paragraph 6.2.vii
Indoor community Infrastructure	7 Infrastructure necessary to support the growing community will come forward in a timely manner		R20-Delivering a new Community Meeting Space in Long Stratton  R21 – A new swimming pool for a larger community	Paragraph 6.2.iv and Paragraph 6.2.vii
Superfast Broadband	8. The most technically advanced communication infrastructure to be in place to serve Long Stratton's growing resident and business community	Priority 8 Priority 3 Priority 4	C22 – Fibre to the Premises	Paragraph 6.2.xi



## 5. PLANNING POLICIES

- 5 This section of the plan contains the planning policies which future planning applications in the plan area will be determined against. The planning policy is shown in bold text. Supporting each policy is the policy intent and, following this, context and reasoning for the policy requirements.

### A STRONG COMMUNITY – HOUSING POLICIES

- 5.1 The following three policies are focused on housing type in terms of tenure and size. The overall focus of the three policies is to ensure that of the 1,800 houses due to come forward as part of the Long Stratton Area Action Plan (AAP), a considerable proportion of them should be tailored to meet the needs already identified in the existing Long Stratton community. Failure to do so will result in pushing residents with a local connection out of the parish and result in fragmentation of the fabric which currently holds the community together.

#### **Policy LSNP – SC1 Housing mix**

**Major residential development proposals (10 dwellings or more) will be supported where they incorporate a significant proportion (circa 70 percent) of two and three bedroom dwellings. Appropriate regard shall also be had to meeting the needs of 1) entry level purchasers on low and medium incomes for example by including flats and terraced housing; and 2) older people through accessible, adaptable general needs housing.**

**An alternative housing mix must be justified by 1) an up-to-date assessment of existing needs applicable to Long Stratton; or 2) the site-specific context.**

Policy intent

- 5.1.1 To ensure all residential schemes (including those coming forward as part of the AAP strategic site allocation) will assist in meeting existing identified local housing needs and to ensure that no overall dwelling type will dominate any particular neighbourhood.
- 5.1.2 Two and three-bedroom dwellings required as part of this policy will need to be of an adequate size to ensure a good quality of residential amenity for future occupiers. A two-bedroom property will need to include at least three rooms excluding the kitchen, bathroom and toilets. A three-bedroom property would need to include at least 4 rooms excluding the kitchen, bathroom and toilets. These are the definitions used in the Long Stratton Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) 2017 (see paragraph 137).
- 5.1.3 The technical housing standards – nationally described space standard provide a further method for measuring minimal internal space in square metres for new dwellings and, as such, provides a mechanism for assessing space standards in Long Stratton. South Norfolk Council have not yet adopted the technical housing standards but are seeking to do this through the Greater Norwich Local Plan which is at Regulation 18 Stage as at March 2020.

## Context and reasoned justification

5.1.4 A review of existing housing stock in the civil parishes of Long Stratton and Tharston and Hapton helps to provide context to this policy. Compared to South Norfolk and the country as whole, Long Stratton has a large proportion of household spaces with 2 and 3 bedrooms. The parish of Tharston and Hapton on the other hand has a high proportion of household spaces with 4 and 5 bedrooms. The Long Stratton NP area includes the whole of the parish of Long Stratton and small proportion of the parish of Tharston and Hapton. The housing characteristics of the plan area can be regarded as typical of a large village or small market town rather than small South Norfolk village.

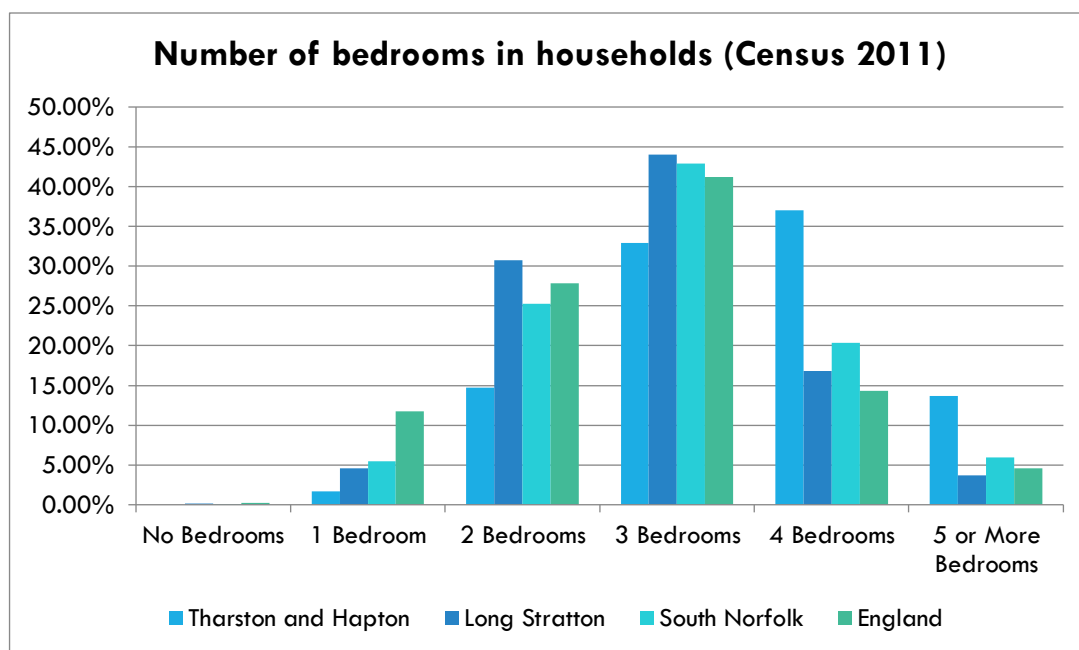


Figure 5.1: Number of bedrooms in households (Census 2011)

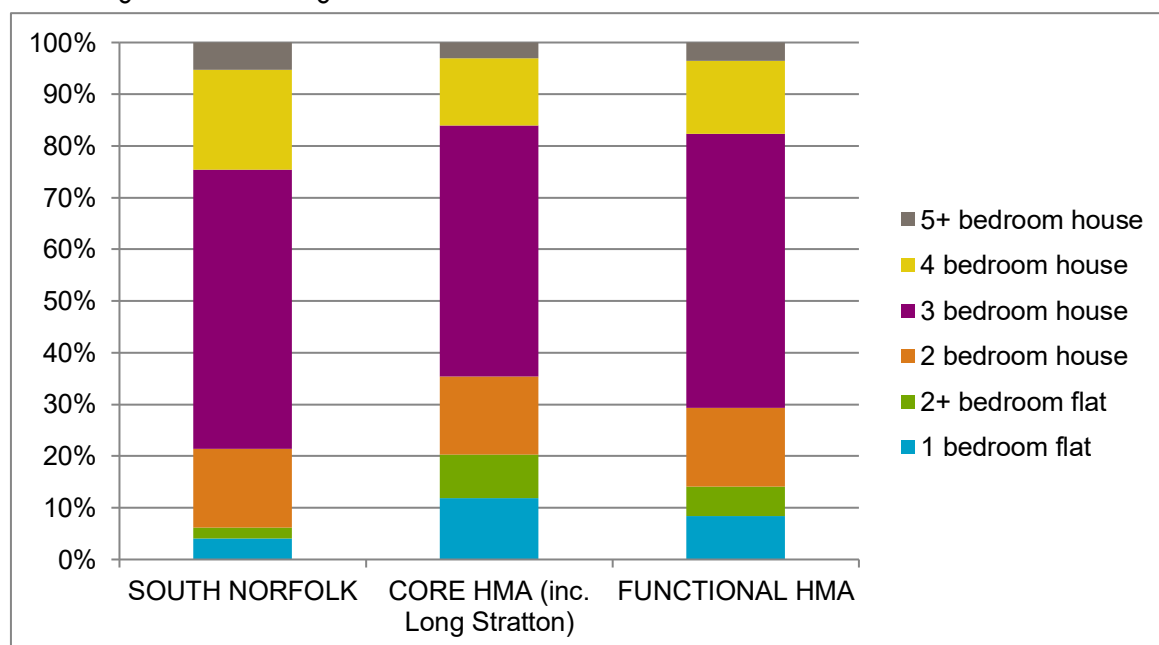
- 5.1.5 The Long Stratton HNA 2017 also looks at existing housing stock and looks specifically at how this has changed between 2001 and 2011 in order to identify any trends – see Table 14 on page 33. The work shows that the actual number of properties with 4 rooms (which could equate to both a 2 bedroom 2 reception room property or a 3 bedroom 1 reception room property) has actually fallen. This indicates a current squeeze on 2 or 3 bedroomed properties in the plan area.
- 5.1.6 The Long Stratton HNA 2017 concludes that there is a total housing need arising within the Neighbourhood Plan area of 408 dwellings from 2017 to 2026. Long Stratton specific needs will be higher than this over the entire plan period. The level of need arising within the plan area means it is very important that the housing being delivered as part of the AAP to deliver on wider district needs also succeeds to address Long Stratton specific needs. Of the need arising in the plan area, the Long Stratton HNA finds that 70% of need falls within the category of two and three bedroomed homes – See Figure 5.1 (and illustration for CORE Housing Market Area (HMA) (inc. Long Stratton)).

5.1.7 It is recognised that the growth allocated for the Long Stratton NP area in the adopted 2016 Area Action Plan has a purpose to serve a wider district need. Figure 5.1 shows a lower need for 1 bedroom dwellings in the South Norfolk Housing Market Area than for the Core Housing Market Area but the need for two and three-bedroomed homes are similarly high at circa 70%.

5.1.8 As discussed under **Policy LSNP – SC3 Affordable housing meeting Long Stratton needs**, smaller properties including flats and terraced housing and smaller rental properties are often the only properties that those on median incomes in the plan area can afford. It is therefore important that the overall proportion of such properties in the plan area is increased during the plan period.

5.1.9 The Long Stratton Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) looked at needs across the wider housing market area which is defined as the functional Housing Market Area (HMA) (includes Broadland, South Norfolk, Norwich, North Norfolk, Breckland) and compares this to need in South Norfolk district as well as with need in the Core HMA. The Core HMA is a smaller area than the functional HMA and is focused around Norwich. The Long Stratton HNA concludes that the core HMA provides a more accurate picture of needs required in Long Stratton than the South Norfolk HMA.

Figure 5.2 Sizes of housing needed in different geographies in Central Norfolk. Source: Figure 7 in the Long Stratton Housing Needs Assessment 2017.



- 5.1.10 The provision of a mix of house sizes is also needed for the purpose of establishing successful new neighbourhoods with broad based communities. They will also have the benefit of having activity at different times of the day (for example retired people and younger families are more likely to enliven a place during the working day.) The overconcentration of many larger homes or many smaller homes should therefore be avoided.
- 5.1.11 The proportion of Long Stratton residents aged 65-84 is lower than that across South Norfolk as a whole and more in line with England as a whole. However, as is the case across the nation, the proportion of older people in the plan area is expected to increase significantly. Table 20 in the Long Stratton HNA predicts the proportion of Long Stratton residents aged 75 plus to increase from 9% of the population as at 2011 to 14% of the population by 2031. The health and lifestyles of older people will differ greatly, as will their housing needs, which can range from accessible and adaptable general needs housing to specialist housing with high levels of care and support. Specialist housing suitable for the older people is specifically addressed in Policy LSNP – SC2.
- 5.1.12 Some needs of older people can be met through accessible and adaptable housing (such as bungalows) made available as private or affordable housing.
- 5.1.13 Accessible and adaptable housing will provide safe and convenient approach routes into and out of the home and outside areas, suitable circulation space and suitable bathroom and kitchens within the home. Wheelchair user dwellings include additional features to meet the needs of occupants who use wheelchairs, or allow for adaptations to meet such needs.

## **Policy LSNP – SC2 Specialist and Supported Housing**

### **Specialist Housing**

**Development proposals providing specialist housing (class 'C3') for the older generation (including retirement housing, sheltered housing or extra care housing) and specialist or supported housing for people with disabilities are strongly encouraged.**

**Proposals will be supported where:**

- **they are close to Long Stratton Town Centre or otherwise easily accessible to shops, services and community facilities without the need to rely on private transport;**
- **they are integrated well with surrounding development and land uses;**
- **they incorporate a mix of tenure to meet identified need in the area including affordable homes; and**
- **they achieve a high standard of residential amenity for occupiers.**

## **Residential Institutions**

**Proposals for a new residential institution (class 'C2') will be supported where:**

- **it is located in a location easily accessible to shops, services, community facilities and public transport as appropriate to meet the needs of the intended residents, staff and visitors;**
- **the scheme layout and design achieves a high standard of residential amenity for occupiers.**

**All schemes should ensure adequate pavement widths and the appropriate location of dropped curbs so as to facilitate good access and egress to the property.**

**All development proposals will be expected to relate well with surrounding built environment. Gated developments will only be supported where the security is necessary to protect the intended occupiers and where it is sensitively designed to result in a welcoming and attractive street-scene environment.**

Policy intent

5.1.14 To highlight the importance and opportunity for delivering:

- additional specialist housing for the older generation in Long Stratton; and
- specialist and supported housing for people with disabilities.

Context and reasoned justification

5.1.15 There are currently three facilities specifically catering for the older generation in Long Stratton (a nursing home, a retirement home and a sheltered housing scheme). But the Long Stratton HNA predicts further need for specialist housing catered to meet the needs of the older population during the period 2017 to 2026 of 126 units particularly given the recent growth in the 85+ population. Over the full duration of the plan period, the actual needs for specialist housing is likely to be higher than this. Also of relevance here is the function of Long Stratton as an urban hub within a large rural area between Norwich and Diss.

5.1.16 A need for more specialist housing for the older generation is identified at the county level as well. Norfolk County Council have undertaken an analysis of need for extra care housing in the county up to 2028. This analysis identifies an unmet demand of 2,842 units across the county including 360 in South Norfolk. Norfolk County Council define Extra care housing as housing suitable for people over the age of 55, whose current home no longer best meets their needs. On their website, Norfolk County Council assert that extra care housing should:

- Be close to shops, bus routes and GP surgeries
- Have provision for a restaurant offer on site
- Have facilities such as hairdressers and fitness suites (where appropriate)
- Developments should be mixed tenure, suitable for a range of care needs banded from low to high
- They expect care staff to be on site 24/7 for any emergency unplanned care



5.1.17 The NP supports the above. The criteria in Policy LSNP – SC2 has been informed by consideration of these.

5.1.18 Planning practice guidance asserts *“the provision of appropriate housing for people with disabilities, including specialist and supported housing, is crucial in helping them to live safe and independent lives.”* and *“Without accessible and adaptable housing, disabled people risk facing discrimination and disadvantage in housing. An ageing population will see the numbers of disabled people continuing to increase and it is important we plan early to meet their needs throughout their lifetime”*

*Planning Practice Guidance, Paragraph 002 Reference ID: 63-002-20190626 26 June 2019*

5.1.19 Long Stratton Town Council and Tharston and Hapton Parish Council will work with South Norfolk Council, Norfolk County Council and potential providers to seek the provision of additional specialist housing schemes which can best meet the needs of the plan area.

5.1.20 In addition to the identified additional need for extra care housing of 360 units needed in South Norfolk, Norfolk County Council have also identified a need for additional residential and nursing home bed spaces. The total identified additional need in South Norfolk up to 2028 is for 288 care and nursing beds.

### **Policy LSNP – SC3 Affordable homes meeting Long Stratton needs**

**The size and tenure of affordable homes being delivered as part of residential schemes should be specifically tailored to contribute towards Long Stratton specific affordable housing needs. A meaningful proportion will be prioritised for those residents with a close connection to Long Stratton.**

**Applicants will be expected to refer to the Long Stratton Housing Needs Assessment and any other relevant information including the Long Stratton Demographic and Socio-Economic review and the strategic housing market assessment relating to Long Stratton affordable housing needs in order to ascertain specific needs in the Long Stratton neighbourhood area.**

Policy intent

5.1.21 To help ensure that Long Stratton residents and those with a connection to Long Stratton have affordable housing needs met. This is in order to meet the need for 132 additional affordable homes currently estimated (see Long Stratton Housing Needs Assessment, AECOM) to be needed to meet Long Stratton specific needs during 2018 to 2026.

5.1.22 This policy is intended to sit alongside the Local Plan policy which sets the affordable housing thresholds for all development proposals. This is currently Policy 4 in the Joint Core Strategy which includes a 30% affordable housing target for schemes of 10 to 15 dwellings and 33% on schemes comprising 16 or more units.

## Context and reasoned justification

- 5.1.23 Policy 4 of the Joint Core Strategy includes a target of 30% affordable housing on schemes of 10 to 15 dwellings and 33% of affordable housing on schemes comprising 16 or more units. The policy requires tenure mix (e.g. social rent or shared ownership) to be determined on a site by site basis for schemes of up to 15 units and for the tenure mix to be split as 85% social rent and 15% intermediate tenures of schemes comprising 16 or more units. South Norfolk Council are able to apply a local connection criteria to affordable housing made available on a rental basis. The actual proportion will be determined on a case by case basis, but should be a meaningful proportion of the overall level of affordable housing planned for in the plan area (circa 600 homes during the period 2017 to 2026 if Local Plan policy requiring 33% affordable housing is met) in order to effectively address Long Stratton affordable housing needs over the plan period.
- 5.1.24 The Long Stratton Demographic and Socio-Economic review and the Long Stratton Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) both demonstrate considerable levels of affordable housing needs within the plan area. It is therefore very important that the affordable housing that is provided either as part of market housing schemes (via Policy 4 of the Joint Core Strategy) or as rural exception sites (sites delivered with the primary purpose of delivering local affordable housing) is both tailored to meet Long Stratton needs but also allocated to those with a connection to the parish of Long Stratton. For market housing schemes, it is acknowledged that some of the affordable housing proportion will be allocated on a wider district needs basis.
- 5.1.25 The Long Stratton HNA identifies (see paragraph 2) that 132 affordable dwellings will be needed in the plan area over the period 2017 to 2026. It is unlikely that these will be delivered via rural exception sites on the edge of Long Stratton since Long Stratton itself is not an identified rural area. It is therefore important that the proportion of the affordable housing being provided as part of market schemes are earmarked for those with a local connection.
- 5.1.26 In 2011 the tenure of households in Long Stratton plan area comprised 72.1% home ownership, 2.2% shared ownership, 12.6% social rent and 11.1 % private rented. Between the period 2001 to 2011, the number of home ownership dwellings increased by 12.4%, the number of shared ownership dwellings increased by 32.4%, the number of social rent properties increased by 23.8% whilst the number of homes in the private rented sector increased by 175.9% (starting from a very low base with only 34 shared ownership properties in 2001 and only 83 rented properties). The Long Stratton HNA finds that the significant growth between 2001 and 2011 in the shared ownership and private rented sector in the plan area is a clear indication of the worsening affordability housing for sale. The Long Stratton DSE Review 2017 finds that house prices are a significant obstacle for low income families. As at September 2017, it estimated that entry level house prices in Long Stratton would require an income of about £38,000.

5.1.27 The Long Stratton HNA states ***“Even those on median incomes have very limited for-sale housing options within Long Stratton, and are more likely to be able to afford a flat outside of the village, elsewhere in South Norfolk, or a rental property”***. This highlights the importance of retaining or increasing the overall level of smaller homes such as flats and terraced housing in the plan area as a way of providing entry level housing for residents. The Long Stratton HNA also states ***“Those on lower quartile household income are restricted to social and intermediate housing, and this particularly affects those under 25 and lone parent households”***. The report finds that ***“.. in broad terms, 50% of all households in Long Stratton would not be able to afford for-sale housing without additional equity (either from existing homes or from family assistance)”***. This presents a problem for the Long Stratton community since only 26% of existing housing in the plan area is found to be available in other more affordable tenures (including the private rented sector).

5.1.28 A close connection to Long Stratton is defined (in priority order) as:

- Residents of the parishes of Long Stratton or Tharston and Hapton who have lived in either parish for a total of at least 3 years of the last 10 years.
- Former residents of the parishes of Long Stratton or Tharston and Hapton who have lived in either of those parishes for a total of at least 3 years of the last 10 years.
- Residents of the parishes of Long Stratton or Tharston and Hapton who have lived in those parishes or the adjacent parishes of Wacton, Morningthorpe and Tasburgh for the last 3 years or more.
- People working in the parishes of Long Stratton or Tharston and Hapton and have done so for the last year or more for at least 10 hours each week.
- Residents of the adjacent parishes of Wacton, Morningthorpe and Tasburgh who have lived in one or more of those parishes (or the parishes of Long Stratton or Tharston and Hapton) for the last 3 years or more.
- Residents of the parishes of Long Stratton or Tharston and Hapton who have lived in those parishes for less than 3 years.
- Residents of the adjacent parishes of Wacton, Morningthorpe and Tasburgh, who have lived in these parishes (or the parishes of Long Stratton or Tharston and Hapton) for less than 3 years.
- Residents of South Norfolk in accordance with the standard allocation criteria for the property type.

Any other person in accordance with the standard allocation criteria for the property type.

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## A STRONG COMMUNITY – SUCCESSFUL INTEGRATION BETWEEN THE NEW COMMUNITY AND EXISTING COMMUNITY POLICIES

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- 5.2 The A140 currently splits the town centre in two and has the effect of segregating east from west. The delivery of the Long Stratton by-pass which is planned for as part of the Long Stratton AAP will give the Long Stratton community the opportunity to reclaim a town centre as a focus for resident and visitor activity as opposed to a focus for commuters travelling through. Currently, most residential areas are within walkable distance to the town centre using, on the whole but not always, safe and attractive walkable routes. Indeed, consultation work with the secondary school found that about half of the children participating walked to schools.

### **Policy LSNP – SC4 Pedestrian and cycle-friendly neighbourhoods**

**The design and layout of new residential development proposals will be expected to provide for direct, safe and attractive walking and cycling routes (including adequate street lighting and pavement condition) within the scheme and utilise opportunities to link directly with neighbouring areas. Residential proposals which result in poor pedestrian connectivity to neighbouring areas, shops, services and facilities (including schools) will not be supported.**

Policy intent

- 5.2.1 To ensure good connectivity between new neighbourhoods and the existing Long Stratton community.

Context and reasoned justification

- 5.2.2 As new neighbourhoods are built out on the edge of the existing settlement it is very important for the purpose of facilitating successful community cohesion that new residents and existing residents are able to travel by foot or bicycle on direct routes between different neighbourhoods and from residential area to key destinations such as the town centre, schools and community centres. The location of community facilities including schools will have a bearing on how this happens but what is also key is that new neighbourhoods are designed so as to allow for direct, safe and attractive pedestrian and cycle routes.
- 5.2.3 The South Norfolk Place Making Guide published in 2012 finds that there is poor permeability (i.e. it is not well connected) from modern estates to centre of the town as well as across the A140 and it is essential that this does not continue as the town grows.

## **Policy LSNP – SC5 Maintaining good connectivity with outlying areas**

**Development proposals coming forward in the plan area will be expected to maintain or enhance good connectivity between Long Stratton and its outlying hamlets, including Stratton St Michael, Wacton Common, Wood Green and Tharston and Hapton. Proposals which result in the severance of walking and cycling links (including the Public Rights of Way Network) between rural communities and Long Stratton settlement will not be supported.**

**In locations where the proposed bypass will sever an existing route, this will be mitigated through the provision of safe, attractive and viable crossing points (e.g. attractive underpass or footbridge) that successfully links into existing routes.**

Policy intent

- 5.2.4 To ensure that proposals do not result in poorer community cohesion with outlying hamlets as a result of new development.
- 5.2.5 It is recognised that the bypass will sever some existing links and the intention of this policy is not to undermine the delivery of the bypass. However, where existing links are severed it is essential new, attractive and viable links are provided so that overall connectivity between Long Stratton and outlying hamlets is maintained and enhanced.

Context and reasoned justification

- 5.2.6 Delivery of the Long Stratton by-pass presents the community with a valued opportunity to strengthen community cohesion but depending on how the by-pass is delivered it has the potential to isolate communities which are located on the other side of the by-pass route. One particular area which the community at large is concerned about is the impact of the by-pass on severing links with Wood Green. Wood Green is an outlying hamlet approximately 1km to the east of the A140 in Long Stratton as well as a County Wildlife Site with pond habitat. There is an ancient network of lanes (e.g. Hall Lane, Parker's Lane, Edge's Lane, Mill Lane) to the east of Long Stratton which provide attractive cycling and walking routes to outlying areas such as Wood Green. The planned route of the by-pass however will result in some of these links being severed unless appropriate crossings (via attractive underpasses or footbridges) are maintained. The AAP indicates that a vehicle junction is planned at the by-pass Hall Lane junction but this will not address the severance of existing walking and cycling routes. An appropriate approach would be for the provision of a green infrastructure route (e.g. a green bridge or underpass) providing access across the A140 to maintain connection of Long Stratton with outlying hamlets.



Figure 5.3 Historic greens and trackways, Wood Green (source: NP committee)

- 5.2.7 Outlying hamlets that this policy is intended to apply to include Stratton St Michael, Wacton Common, Wood Green, Tharston and Hapton and beyond e.g. Morningthorpe which is just beyond the Neighbourhood Plan area.

### **Policy LSNP – SC6 Location of new community facilities**

**New community facilities including library facilities and sports facilities will be supported where they can easily be accessed by the communities they are intended to serve. This would normally mean the facility should be located in close proximity to the residential areas they are serving, be easily and safely accessed by foot or bicycle and, for those residents travelling from further distance, be close to a bus stop.**

Policy intent

- 5.2.8 The intent of this policy is to facilitate opportunities for all residents to access community facilities and to facilitate the provision of shared meetings spaces where members of different neighbourhoods can come together. Clearly the town centre is a good location for many residents but the intent of this policy is to have a distribution of facilities (i.e. buildings and spaces) throughout the plan area as well as in more centrally located hubs.

- 5.2.9 Elsewhere in this NP, Policy LSNP R20 addresses the need for a community meeting space close to Long Stratton town centre and Policy LSNP R21 seeks the provision of a new swimming pool in the plan area to meet the needs of a growing community.

Context and reasoned justification

- 5.2.10 The provision of accessible community facilities is key to allowing for successful integration of the existing community of Long Stratton and the new community. The



opportunity to interact through sport, leisure and other shared interests is essential in a successful cohesive community. Community groups (e.g. local scouting groups), sports and leisure providers need sufficient provision of physical buildings and spaces in order to meet the needs of their participants. There is a current demand from local scouting groups for additional meeting space in the plan area and demand will grow as the population grows. It is important new facilities (i.e. buildings and spaces) are in appropriate locations which are accessible to residents they are intended to serve.

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## DESIGN AND CHARACTER POLICIES

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5.3 The policies in section 5.3 are focused on ensuring that there will be a strong sense of place in Long Stratton as the town continues to grow.

5.3.1 South Norfolk has a Place Making Guide, first published in 2012. This document is a material consideration when planning applications are determined. It makes clear what South Norfolk Council expects when deciding planning applications. It also provides useful context to the three policies in this section.

5.3.2 The Long Stratton AAP emphasises the importance of the Place Making Guide in the supporting text although there is no direct reference to it in the actual planning policies. Policy DM1.4 in the Development Management Policies document directly refers to the Place Making Guide stating:

“... the South Norfolk Place Making Guide which identifies important aspects of local distinctiveness that new development should respond to”

5.3.3 Section 2.5 (page 80) of the Place Making Guide describes Long Stratton’s key characteristics. This includes the following:

- Clearly defined historic core of linear pattern with strong degree of enclosure to main street.
- Village situated on main transport route north to south of the district.
- Majority of buildings in the village are small scale two-storey dwellings of simple form.
- Property boundaries with road are largely low brick walls, mature hedgerows (particularly on entering village) and some railings.
- 14th century round towered church and cemetery dominates historic core to the south.



Figure 5.4 St. Mary's Church (source: NP committee)

- Within the historic core buildings have steeply pitched roofs and relatively narrow spans. Traditional window details, brick, flint or painted render wall finishes and pantile roofs.



Figure 5.5 Steeply pitched roofs on buildings in The Street (source: NP committee)

- Ground floor shops either side of the main street.
- Some gable ends front the main street.
- Chimneys, dormers, bargeboards to gables.
- Mature trees provide back drop to buildings.
- Some unsympathetic modern infill development has diluted character of historic core.
- Late 20th century estates of generally standard pseudo-vernacular design but with some sympathetic use of open spaces in more recent development.
- Modern estates provide village with hard perimeter.
- Poor permeability from modern estates to centre of the village and across the A140.
- Poor pedestrian access east to west across the main street.

#### 5.3.4 The document identifies the following key design principles to follow in new development:

- Ensure that new development responds to the scale, form and proportions of existing vernacular buildings in the historic areas of the town, reflecting their distinctive character.
- Respect existing materials and finishes, although new materials could be introduced with more contemporary designs.
- Enhance permeability into existing village centre wherever possible.
- Ensure development does not form a hard perimeter to the edge of the village.
- Incorporate key open spaces into the design of new residential areas to provide focal points and interest.
- Incorporate trees to provide a natural back drop to some buildings or groups of buildings.
- Reflect existing boundary treatments in new development.

## **Policy LSNP – DC7 Landscape and settlement character**

**To be supported, development proposals must be sympathetic to Long Stratton's local landscape character and Long Stratton's heritage, including its existing built environment and the landscape which surrounds the settlement.**

**This means:**

- **Development proposals coming forward on the edge of the existing settlement shall design in sensitive landscaping and lower densities to create an appropriate transition into the open countryside and avoid a hard perimeter to the edge of the settlement;**
- **To the east of Long Stratton, beyond the new settlement boundaries (Map 1 – East Sensitivity Zone), key features of the ancient countryside as identified in Norfolk County Council's Historic Characterisation and Sensitivity Assessment will be protected including surviving historic greens, the lanes and the historic hedgerow boundaries;**
- **All development proposals in the plan area to retain or enhance existing features of landscape value (including trees, hedgerows, water features etc) within the site and work within the context of existing features of landscape value in its surroundings; and**
- **Beyond the Area Action Plan development boundary (see Appendix 2 of the Area Action Plan), the tranquil rural character of the outlying hamlets, including dark skies, shall be safeguarded.**

**Landscaping schemes of individual development proposals need to be planned as an integral part of the development from the outset and implemented at an early stage of the build-out phase. To be supported, development proposals must include agreed timings for the implementation of landscaping works. For schemes involving the development of publicly accessible spaces, developers are encouraged to provide opportunities for residents to participate in community planting schemes.**

**Policy intent**

- 5.3.5 To ensure those landscape characteristics which help to distinguish Long Stratton as a place are retained or enhanced.
- 5.3.6 This policy is intended to complement and work alongside Policy DM 4.9 in the South Norfolk Local Plan (Development Management Policies) which requires all proposals (where appropriate) to demonstrate a high quality of landscape design. This includes the provision of new planted features (such as tree belts, hedgerows, wild flowers and specimen trees) to form part of development proposals from their outset and should provide an appropriate landscape setting for the scheme.

## Context and reasoned justification

5.3.7 Further information on landscape and settlement character applicable to Long Stratton is provided in:

- The South Norfolk Place Making Guide;
- South Norfolk Landscape Character Assessment (Land Use Consultants June 2001); and
- The South Norfolk Local Landscape Designations Review, Landscape Character Areas and River Valleys in the Norwich Policy Area (Chris Blandford 2012).

5.3.8 In 2009, Norfolk County Council published the Historic Characterisation and Sensitivity Assessment. The report was produced as evidence to inform local planning (Greater Norwich preferred option growth areas) and consists of an evidence-based analysis of historic character of four study areas including Long Stratton which the report has subdivided into 5 'sensitivity' zones. The overview of the area states that the Roman Pye Road (A140) is a significant feature, visible in the landscape, and the reason for Long Stratton's location. In addition, the road influences the shape and arrangement of field boundaries either side of its length, and possibly the layout of the ancient road network, particularly to its east.

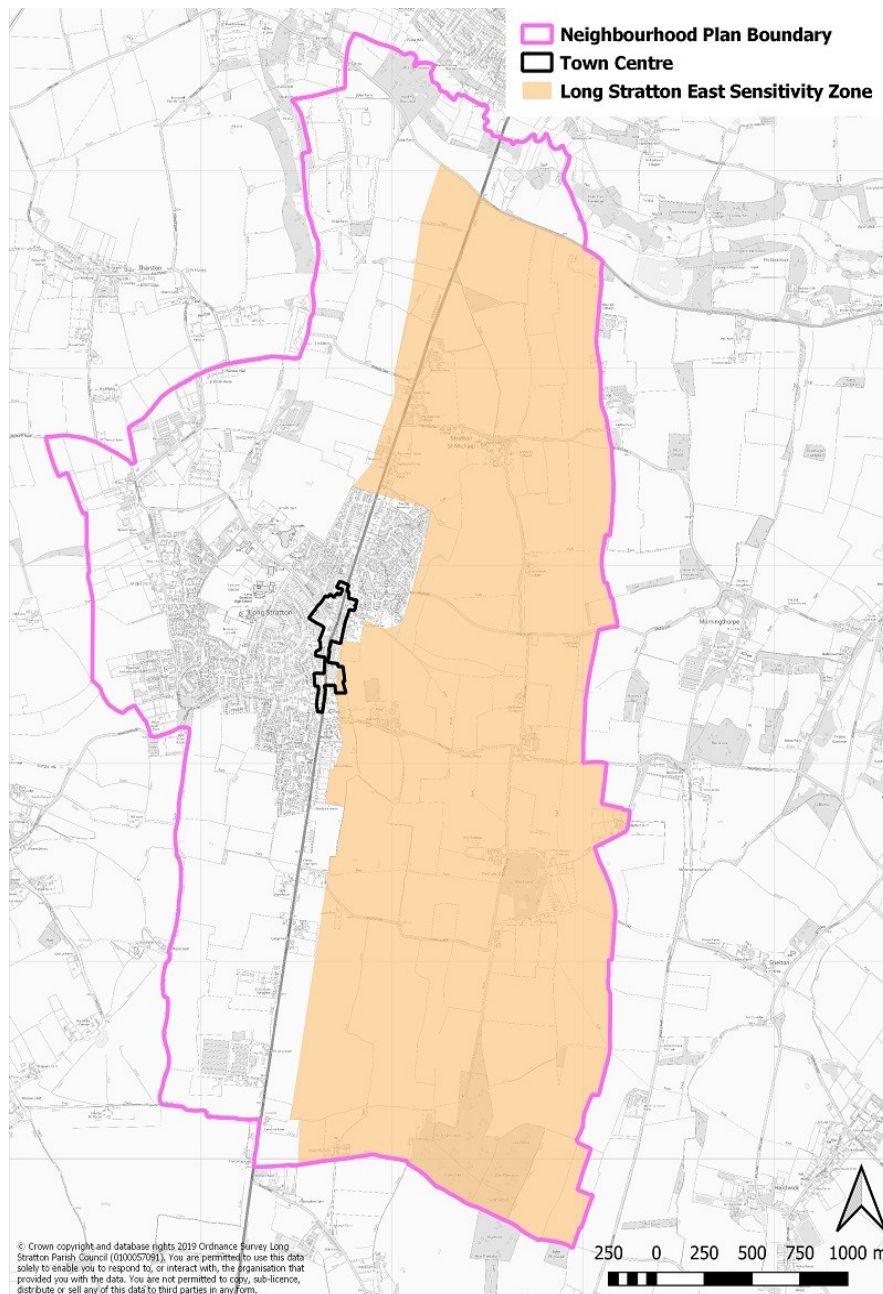


Figure 5.6 Network of ancient lanes dating from the medieval period east of the town (source: NP committee)

5.3.9 The most sensitive of the zones are Long Stratton East which, as set out in the report, *"retains a high number of features of typical 'Ancient' countryside with a significant number of surviving greens, cohesive settlements of timber framed buildings grouped around them, church/hall complexes and an extensive network of ancient track ways linking them together. In addition, the zone contains a rare grid system of lanes which dates from at least the medieval period and may well be much earlier. There is little evidence of modern housing development – a few 20<sup>th</sup> century ex- local authority houses in Morningthorpe – so that the zone has a strong 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> century character. The most significant change in recent times has been loss of hedgerow boundaries, particularly adjacent to Long Stratton. Robustness is affected by the proposed Long Stratton bypass which, as proposed, will cut across the lane grid system. The setting of settlements and archaeological sites would also be affected."*



5.3.10 The extent of the Long Stratton East Sensitivity Zone as described in Norfolk County Council's Historic Characterisation and Sensitivity Assessment is shown in Map 1. The second bullet point in Policy DC7 therefore applies to this area which is also beyond the new settlement boundary as per the adopted Long Stratton Area Action Plan.



**Map 1 – Long Stratton East Sensitivity Zone**

5.3.11 The NP would support schemes which provide opportunities for residents to participate in community planting schemes because we consider this will assist in strengthening sense of place and community pride as the population grows.

## Policy LSNP – DC8 Creating successful neighbourhoods

**All residential development proposals shall contribute positively to the quality of Long Stratton as a place. For smaller schemes, descriptions as to how a development achieves this should be provided in the Design and Access statement or Planning Statement as applicable.**

**Major development proposals (10 dwellings or more) should be accompanied by a Building for a Healthy Life Assessment that demonstrates how a scheme does this, taking into account the latest government design guidance.**

Policy intent

5.3.12 To ensure new residential development in the plan area helps to create successful places in Long Stratton.

5.3.13 The National Design Guide published in October 2019 by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government asserts that well-designed places have individual characteristics which work together to create its physical character. The guide identifies ten characteristics which help to nurture and sustain a sense of community. These are context, identify, built form, movement, nature, public spaces, uses, homes and buildings, resources and lifespan. Applicants will be expected to refer to this when completing their Building for a Healthy Life assessments.

Context and reasoned justification

5.3.14 Applicants of smaller sites may also choose to complete a Building for a Healthy Life assessment. Alternatively, they can be guided by the design principles set out in Long Stratton's Neighbourhood Plan Design Guidelines as well as the design principles set out in the South Norfolk's Place Making Guide (as summarised in paragraph 5.3.4) when describing how their schemes contributes positively to Long Stratton as a place.

5.3.15 For schemes within the Long Stratton conservation area, applicants should also be guided by the Long Stratton Conservation Area Character Appraisal.

5.3.16 Policy 2 in the Joint Core Strategy states that all development will be designed to the highest possible standards, creating a strong sense of place. Amongst the more detailed requirements is that all residential development of 10 units or more will be evaluated against the Building for Life criteria published by CABI achieving at least 14 points. Since the adoption of the Core Strategy, Building for Life evolved into Building for Life 12, before, more recently in 2020, being superseded by Building for a Healthy Life. It continues to be the industry standard for new housing development. Building for a Healthy Life has a traffic light system where green indicates the design of a scheme has succeeded, red identifies aspects that need to be changed and amber is used where an element of design is considered to fall between a green and a red traffic light. Applicants can self-assess their scheme (e.g. by their design team) and it works on the principle of the applicant identifying opportunities for improvement as the design evolves. The system works best when local planning authorities and other stakeholders are involved in this discussion.



5.3.17 Building for a Healthy Life has been written in partnership with Homes England, NHS England and NHS Improvement. The scheme identifies 12 considerations organized across three themes which are of key importance when a new proposal is coming forward.

Integrated Neighbourhoods	Distinctive Places	Streets for all
Natural connections	Making the most of what's there	Healthy streets
Walking, cycling and public transport	A memorable character	Cycle and car parking
Facilities and services	Well defined streets and spaces	Green and blue infrastructure
Homes for everyone	Easy to find your way around	Back of pavement, front of home

5.3.18 Further information on the Building for a Healthy Life assessment including how it differs from the Building for Life 12 assessment scheme is available to view at <https://www.designforhomes.org/project/building-for-life/>

### **Policy LSNP – DC9 Strengthening and enhancing Long Stratton's historic core**

**Development proposals (including comprehensive redevelopment schemes) within Long Stratton's conservation area or within the setting of Long Stratton's conservation area should respect the scale, form and proportions of existing vernacular buildings.**

- **new proposals on either side of the A140 should complement the scale of those that give the historic core its distinctive character (and should not be taller or out of scale with them); and**
- **infill will be supported where it conserves or enhances the heritage assets and their setting.**

**Proposals should be informed by the findings of the Long Stratton Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Plan. Where applicable, opportunities to address issues at individual listed buildings and buildings of townscape significance<sup>15</sup> will be sought.**

Policy intent

To ensure development conserves the significance of existing heritage assets in the historic core and opportunities to enhance heritage assets are utilised.

<sup>15</sup> Page 28 of the Long Stratton Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Plan includes a streetscape map which identifies both listed buildings and the buildings of townscape significance. Current issues where attention should be focused are highlighted on page 15.

## Context and reasoned justification

5.3.19 Policy 2 in the Joint Core Strategy requires development to respect local distinctiveness including the historic environment taking account of conservation area character appraisals.

5.3.20 The Long Stratton conservation area was designated in 1975. In January 2013 South Norfolk Council produced the Long Stratton Conservation Area Character Appraisal. A key aim of the document is to improve the understanding of the value of the built heritage and provide property owners and potential developers within the conservation area with clearer guidance on planning matters and the types of development likely to be encouraged.

5.3.21 The appraisal divides the conservation area into four distinct sections:

- From Hall Lane to Flowerpot Lane
- From Flowerpot Lane to Jubilee House and the Old Manor House
- The Centre: from Jubilee House/Old Manor House to Maltings House/Ling Cottage
- From Maltings House and Ling Cottage to Hill Farm Road

5.3.22 The conservation area contains 54 statutorily listed buildings but the Conservation Area Character Appraisal also identifies a number of other buildings considered to be of townscape significance.

5.3.23 The appraisal identifies problems and opportunities in the conservation area:

- Condition of buildings where a number of historic buildings are in need of repair
- Vacant or disused buildings and sites
- Changes to the character through the adverse impact of the A140; by home improvements of inappropriate design/material and unsympathetic advertising signage in the village

5.3.24 The appraisal recommends some management proposals which include:

- Assessing the need to restrict permitted development rights through Article 4 and Article 4(2) directions
- Work with Highways to make sure works within the conservation area are undertaken using an agreed palette of materials
- A list of specific enhancements at individual properties

5.3.25 The Historic Characterisation and Sensitivity Assessment published by Norfolk County Council in 2009 and introduced above describes five 'sensitivity' zones in Long Stratton. One of these is Zone 2, which is the Long Stratton historic core. This zone is categorised as high-medium sensitivity. Due to the inward-looking historic core, the assessment concludes that development either side of the road will not necessarily impact on the historic core (due to it being largely out of sight) unless the new development were taller and out of scale with the historic buildings. In order to conserve the quality of the conservation area it is therefore important that Policy DC9

resists development on either side of the A140 where this would be taller or out of scale with those that give the historic core its distinctive character. The assessment states the robustness of the zone is affected by modern infill and potential future development, and the busy road which has eroded the character.



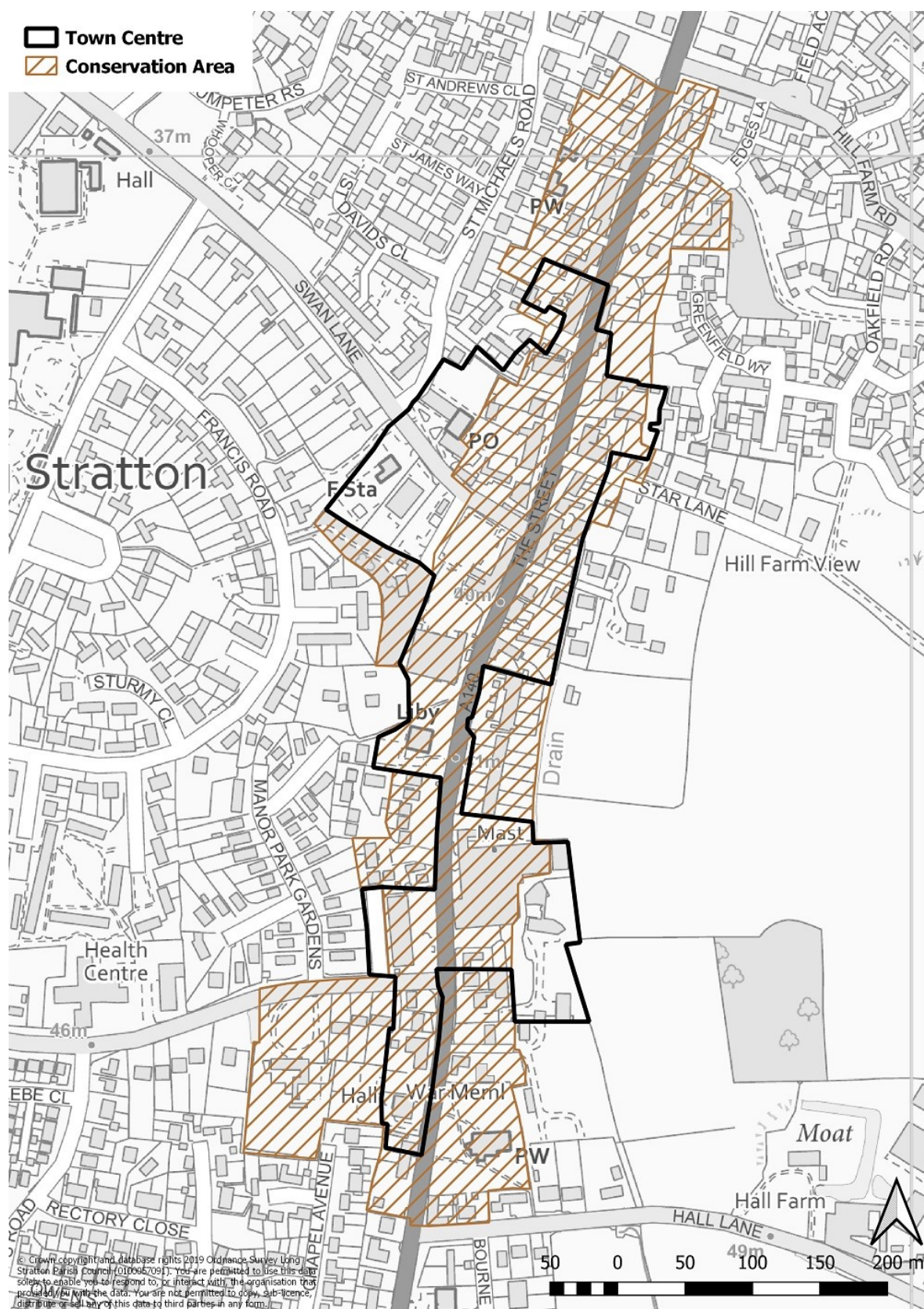
Figure 5.7 Traditional cottages on The Street (source: NP committee)



Figure 5.8 Historic buildings line the centre of Long Stratton (source: NP committee)



Map 2. Long Stratton Conservation Area



## **Policy LSNP – DC10 Long Stratton Design Principles**

**A design led approach should be taken for all proposals. In adopting a design-led approach, applicants should be guided by the design principles set out in the Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan Design Guidelines in relation to:**

- **Pedestrian and cycle connectivity;**
- **Edge treatments between the proposed and existing settlements;**
- **Road dimensions and vehicle access;**
- **Vehicle parking solutions;**
- **Built form, including architectural details and material palette; and**
- **Sustainability.**

**Innovative approaches to the construction of low carbon homes which demonstrate sustainable use of resources and high energy efficiency levels will be supported (for example, construction to Passivhaus standards<sup>16</sup>, homes fitted with three phase electricity to allow for the addition of renewable technology such as heat pumps and incorporation of on-site renewable technology).**

**Development proposals coming forward as part of Long Stratton's strategic site allocation (Policy LSGS1 of the Long Stratton Area Action Plan) shall also accord with design principles set out in the Long Stratton Design Code (or any accepted replacement) as agreed by South Norfolk Council in connection with the planning permission for the site.**

Policy intent:

5.3.26 To help achieve the following objectives underpinning the plan:

- Objective 2: Successful integration between new community and existing community. As part of this the achievement of excellent permeability within neighbourhoods, between neighbourhoods and from residential areas to the town centre.
- Objective 3: Achieving a strong sense of place. As part of this retaining and enhancing those characteristics that make Long Stratton special.

5.3.27 The National Design Guide published in October 2019 by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government asserts that well-designed places have individual characteristics which work together to create its physical character. The guide identifies ten characteristics which help to nurture and sustain a sense of community. These are context, identity, built form, movement, nature, public spaces, uses, homes and buildings, resources and lifespan. The intention of Policy DC10 is not to depart from the approach taken nationally but provide the Long Stratton specific context to it. The local priorities expressed throughout this Neighbourhood Plan but in particular in this chapter highlights the local priorities and concerns with regard to design. This is helpful in defining identity which is the second design characteristic identified in the National Design Guide.

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<sup>16</sup> <https://www.passivhaustrust.org.uk/>

- 5.3.28 To demonstrate compliance with this policy, applicants will be expected to provide an assessment of their scheme against the Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan Design Guidelines. This can be provided as part of the Design and Access statement, or for smaller schemes as part of the Planning Statement. Officers will assess the scheme against the questions set out in section 3.8 of the Design Guidelines document.
- 5.3.29 All applications coming forward as part of the strategic site allocation for 1,800 homes as per Policy LNGS1 in the AAP will also be expected to be in conformity with an area-wide Design Code prepared by the developer (Norfolk Land and Norfolk Homes Ltd) to support the original hybrid applications and as agreed by South Norfolk Council as part of planning consent or subsequently updated and agreed by South Norfolk Council.

Context and reasoned justification:

- 5.3.30 The Long Stratton Design Guidelines was prepared by AECOM in May and June 2019 on the behalf of Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan Group. Prior to this, the Neighbourhood Plan Group had completed targeted consultation with the community on issues relating to design and sustainability. The feedback from this fed into the brief provided to AECOM. The design guidelines was subjected to consultation with the wider community as part of the pre-submission consultation stage. The purpose of the document is to inform the design of all future planning applications in the plan area and also to support the Design Code that has been prepared by Norfolk Homes and Norfolk Land Ltd to accompany their planning applications as submitted in 2018.
- 5.3.31 The Long Stratton Design Guidelines focuses on specific aspects of design of importance to the community. These are pedestrian and cycle links connectivity, boundary treatments between existing communities and proposed new communities, road dimensions and vehicle access, vehicle parking solutions, architectural details and material palette and sustainable design.
- 5.3.32 Consultation undertaken with the Long Stratton community in April 2019 as part of the plan preparation highlighted strong community support for sustainable design and construction measures especially where this would contribute towards lower running costs of the property.
- 5.3.33 Two hybrid planning applications were submitted in 2018 for the development of residential development in line with strategic site allocation LNGS1 (Land East, South-East and North-West of Long Stratton). As part of this, the applicants (Norfolk Land and Norfolk Homes Ltd) were required to prepare a Design Code for all elements of the scheme to comply with. The document divides the wider areas into different neighbourhood areas and provides a broad design strategy for these areas including design principles, green infrastructure and the built environment. All future housebuilders building out elements of the strategic site allocation will be expected to comply with this Design Code.

### **Flood risk and water management**

- 5.3.34 Information on flood risk in the Long Stratton NP area can be found by referring to the latest Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (adopted 2011 with an addendum issued in 2017 as at time of writing).
- 5.3.35 The 2017 Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (addendum to the 2011 report) states that there are over 200 properties in the Long Stratton area at risk from surface water flooding in the 1% AEP event.
- 5.3.36 There is a record of internal flooding to 1 property in Glebe Close in March 2013.
- 5.3.37 The Long Stratton History Report accompanying this plan also records historical flooding events in Long Stratton 12 August 1912, January 1939, March 1947 and September 1968.
- 5.3.38 It is very important that any new development proposals in the plan area does not result in increased risk of flooding from an existing flood source and that when development does take place mitigation measures are implemented to address surface water arising within the development site.
- 5.3.39 However, it is not considered that a Long Stratton NP specific policy on flooding will add value to the existing adopted planning policies which are already in place.
- 5.3.40 Existing policies include:
- Policy DM 4.2 (Sustainable drainage and water management) in the Development Management Policies document,
  - Policy 1 in the Core Strategy (Addressing climate change and protecting environmental assets) and
  - 2019 NPPF policies.
- 5.3.41 These will apply to development proposals coming forward in the Long Stratton NP area.



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## EMPLOYMENT POLICIES

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- 5.4 The objective underpinning this policy section is to help ensure Long Stratton's employment and business base continues to grow and diversify as it takes on a more strategic role in the wider regional market.
- 5.4.1 It is expected that the attractiveness of Long Stratton as an employment base will increase during the plan period. This is because BT Openreach have agreed that all new dwellings coming forward as part of the AAP allocation will have access to superfast broadband. It is also because of the anticipated population growth and of course, Long Stratton's strategic location on the A140 between Diss and Norwich.
- 5.4.2 Local businesses in Long Stratton and Tharston were contacted to gain their views and aspirations as to how the new development (1800 homes proposed in the AAP) would affect their businesses. All the businesses were invited to attend drop in consultation sessions over two days during a weekend in June. Discussions held suggested that one of the concerns is maintaining access for deliveries to businesses on the Tharston Industrial estate. One business said that any new growth in the village will have the potential to bring new customers/clients to the area as well as new businesses for competition or for growth, either way it's good for the area. Rent and rates on the Tharston Industrial Estate are currently competitive so it is unlikely that businesses would be encouraged to move to the new premises on the plans for the proposed development without incentive.
- 5.4.3 The Flowerpot Lane/A140 junction which is used by industrial traffic from Tharston Industrial Estate is identified as a key problem for residents. This junction is considered as unsafe by many residents because there is no signal controlled crossing for pedestrians. This problem could be partly addressed if businesses which relied on HGV traffic were to re-locate away from Tharston Industrial Estate to alternative employment sites in the plan area with a more direct access on to the planned by-pass.



Figure 5.9 Flowerpot Lane/A140 junction (source: NP committee)

## **Policy LSNP – E11 New employment uses in Tharston**

**New B2 employment uses at Tharston Industrial Site and at land west of Tharston Industrial Site will be supported in line with Policy LNGS2 of the Long Stratton Area Action Plan subject to traffic impacts being assessed as not triggering additional pedestrian safety or amenity issues at the Flowerpot Lane/A140 junction or along Chequers Road.**

**New B8 uses will be supported where they will not lead to additional HGV movements along Flowerpot Lane as demonstrated through a transport assessment. Where proposed new B8 uses at the Tharston Industrial Site are projected to trigger additional HGV movements at the Flowerpot Lane/A140 junction, the development proposals will only be supported if it can be demonstrated that there will be no resulting adverse impacts on road safety for pedestrians and cyclists using this junction, or where applicable, these are adequately addressed through mitigation measures (e.g. installation of pedestrian controlled traffic lights).**

Policy Intent:

5.4.4 To manage the volume of heavy vehicles using the A140/Flowerpot Lane junction and Chequers Road.

Context and reasoned justification:

5.4.5 Policy LNGS2 of the AAP (Land West of Tharston Industrial Estate) allocates an area of land amounting to 2.5 hectares for use classes B1 (office/light industrial), B2 (industrial) and B8 (storage and distribution) uses. Whilst the policy includes criteria relating to the need to maximise walking and cycling opportunities, it is the location of B8 land uses in this part of the plan area that is going to continue to undermine pedestrian safety and pedestrian amenity at the A140/Flowerpot Lane junction.

5.4.6 B8 employment uses will be more appropriately located closer to the A140 as part of the 9.5 hectares allocated for employment uses in Policy LNGS1 of the AAP.

## **Policy LSNP – E12 Training Long Stratton's local workforce**

**Development proposals which will facilitate the delivery of skills training or apprenticeship schemes to the local people are strongly encouraged.**

**Where relevant and appropriate, development proposals which are anticipated to create a high number of job opportunities will be required, via a S106 planning obligation, to invest in local training and/or apprenticeship schemes.**

Policy Intent

5.4.7 To support and encourage proposals which result the provision of training opportunities for local people. Proposals could include purpose built technical skills academies or other employment uses which result in the employer entering into agreements to employ local people or provide skills training to local people. In such case, the developer may be asked to make contributions towards such initiatives.

- 5.4.8 Proposals likely to generate more than 250 employees (i.e. above the UK threshold for a small or medium enterprise) will be considered as generating a high number of job opportunities.

#### Context and reasoned justification

- 5.4.9 In terms of education, it is important that the education in Long Stratton provides people with the skills and qualifications needed for successful and rewarding employment. Employers are attracted into an area not just on the basis of the infrastructure on offer but also on the skills and abilities of its residents. Businesses in East Anglia often struggle to find the skills needed, especially for higher scientific and technical roles, as a result many of the available high value jobs go to an imported workforce. In particular the New Anglia LEP identified the ICT/Digital and creative sector as a fast growing area of development (55% growth in New Anglia LEP compared to 20% UK). By tailoring the skills offer to meet the needs of the local economy training providers can help to achieve greater levels of private sector investment in skills and ensure that businesses have access to the high level skills necessary for innovation and growth (DfE Norfolk and Suffolk Area review August 2017).
- 5.4.10 A need is identified for robust, good quality apprenticeships, especially at advanced, higher level and degree level, as having a key role in aligning quality training with economic need and providing clear entry points and pathways into local industry. Paragraph 56 of the NPPF<sup>17</sup> states that obligations can only be legally secured where necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms; where directly related to the development and where fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development). It is acknowledged the policy can only apply to cases where these tests are met. The NP covers the period 2019 to 2036. During this time the role of Long Stratton in wider region is expected to change and evolve. It is important policies are sufficient flexible and broad for a range of planning applications which may come forward during this plan period.

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<sup>17</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework/4-decision-making>

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## TOWN CENTRE POLICIES

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5.5 The objective underpinning this policy section is to help realise opportunities to enhance the town centre in particular the opportunities which present themselves once the Long Stratton by-pass has been delivered.

5.5.1 In January 2018, the Long Stratton Masterplanning report was produced by AECOM for the Long Stratton Parish Council for the purpose of informing the work of the Neighbourhood Plan. The overarching objective of the report was to advise on how the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group could use the planned re-routing of the A140 as a catalyst to remodel the town centre in a more people-friendly way. Key outputs of the work were:

- An urban design analysis of the study area. This is shown in Figure 3.1.5 of the Long Stratton Masterplanning Report. The analysis identifies existing issues which contribute to creating an overall hostile environment to pedestrians and cyclists along the A140. Map 3 called Pedestrian Movement is based on Figure 3.1.5 of the Masterplanning Report.
- A diagram showing proposed improvements. This is shown in Figure 4.1 of the Long Stratton Masterplanning Report. This presents opportunities for improving the town centre environment. Map 4 called Opportunities for Improvement is based on Figure 4.1 of the Masterplanning Report.

5.5.2 As part of the urban design analysis the following was identified:

- As a result of the A140, the town centre suffers from traffic congestion, noise and high air pollution, severance and degraded setting of listed buildings and conservation area.



(Figure 5.10 Looking north up The Street from The Plain, traffic congestion (source: NP committee))

- A hostile environment is created for pedestrians and cycling namely narrow footways which places pedestrians dangerously close to vehicle traffic, pedestrian pinch points where the pavements disappear to accommodate bus



lay-bys, in some areas pavements which are surfaced with pebbled surfaces unsuitable for wheelchair users or people pushing a pushchair.

- There are some places where the pavement widens such as at Star Lane and Flowerpot Lane but here the spaces are found to be poorly utilised and are not inviting for pedestrians.
- Poorly designed junctions which create a hostile environment for pedestrians by impacting on pedestrian safety and accessibility.
- Large areas of unattractive hard standing surfaces and poor quality public realm.

5.5.3 The report finds that the existing design of the A140 is oriented towards moving traffic and this is heavily prioritised over enabling pedestrian and cycle access. But the report also makes the point that the building of the bypass, although expected to move traffic, will not itself address problems related to inadequate street design. Other measures are needed to make sure this happens.

5.5.4 Chapter 4 of the masterplanning report presents the opportunities which could complement the proposed bypass in providing a more pleasant pedestrian environment and sustain the role of the town centre as its main community hub. These are summarised below:

- Widen the footways in the town centre by narrowing the carriageway and removing areas of pebbled surfacing that clearly has no clear function and removing bus lay-bys (instead provide bus stops aligned with the street)
- Repaving footways with high-quality paving slabs
- Consider the introduction of raised pedestrian crossings so they are level with the pavement and pedestrians don't need to step down into the traffic
- Create a more pedestrian friendly environment on both The Street and Swan Lane which is the main pedestrian route to schools west of the village centre by converting the existing signalised pedestrian crossing between Swan Lane and Star Lane into a raised zebra crossing



Figure 5.11 Pedestrian crossing on The Plain (source: NP committee)

- Introducing a 20mph zone through the town centre
- Consider upgrading the crossings at St Michael's Road into raised zebra crossings
- Consider upgrading the crossing at Flowerpot Lane into signalised crossings with pedestrian signals

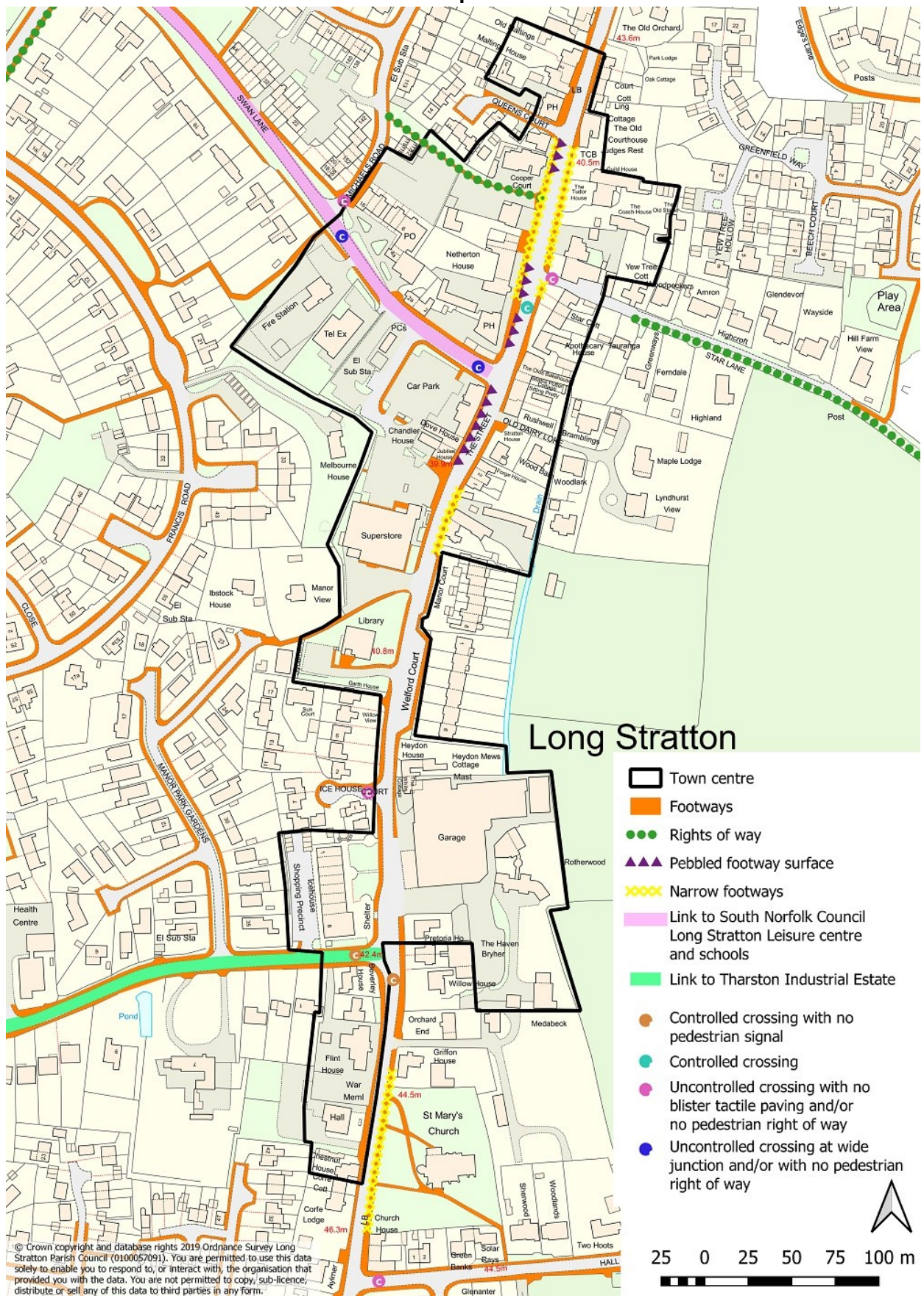
5.5.5 The report states that traffic calming along the A140 would provide an incentive to renew currently underutilised public spaces for example the spaces created by the building set back at the junctions with Star Lane and Flowerpot Lane. Although these spaces are equipped with public benches, they feature unattractive areas of hard standing with minimal landscape that discourage stopping. The report identifies these spaces as ideal for pocket park treatment with new plants and trees to provide more greenery.

5.5.6 The report also recommends the designation of outdoor seating areas for cafes and restaurants as a way of anchoring these places as community gathering spaces.

5.5.7 In addition to the issues picked up in the Long Stratton Masterplanning report, the Neighbourhood Plan also recognises there is an issue around town centre car parking. There is a car park on Swan Lane available to town centre shoppers and visitors and this is well used and often full resulting in some visitors having to look elsewhere which can be difficult. In order to maintain and enhance the shops and facilities in the town centre it is important that town centre car parking capacity is increased. Policies TC14 and TC15 would seek the provision of additional car parking capacity as part of any proposals for a new market place or the redevelopment of the existing fire station and telephone exchange sites. In addition, the Neighbourhood Plan also seeks a provision of a new community meeting space at Star Lane (see Policy R20). This community meeting facility will include parking capacity to meet the needs of the facility which will also be suitable as an overflow parking location to serve town centre shoppers and visitors.

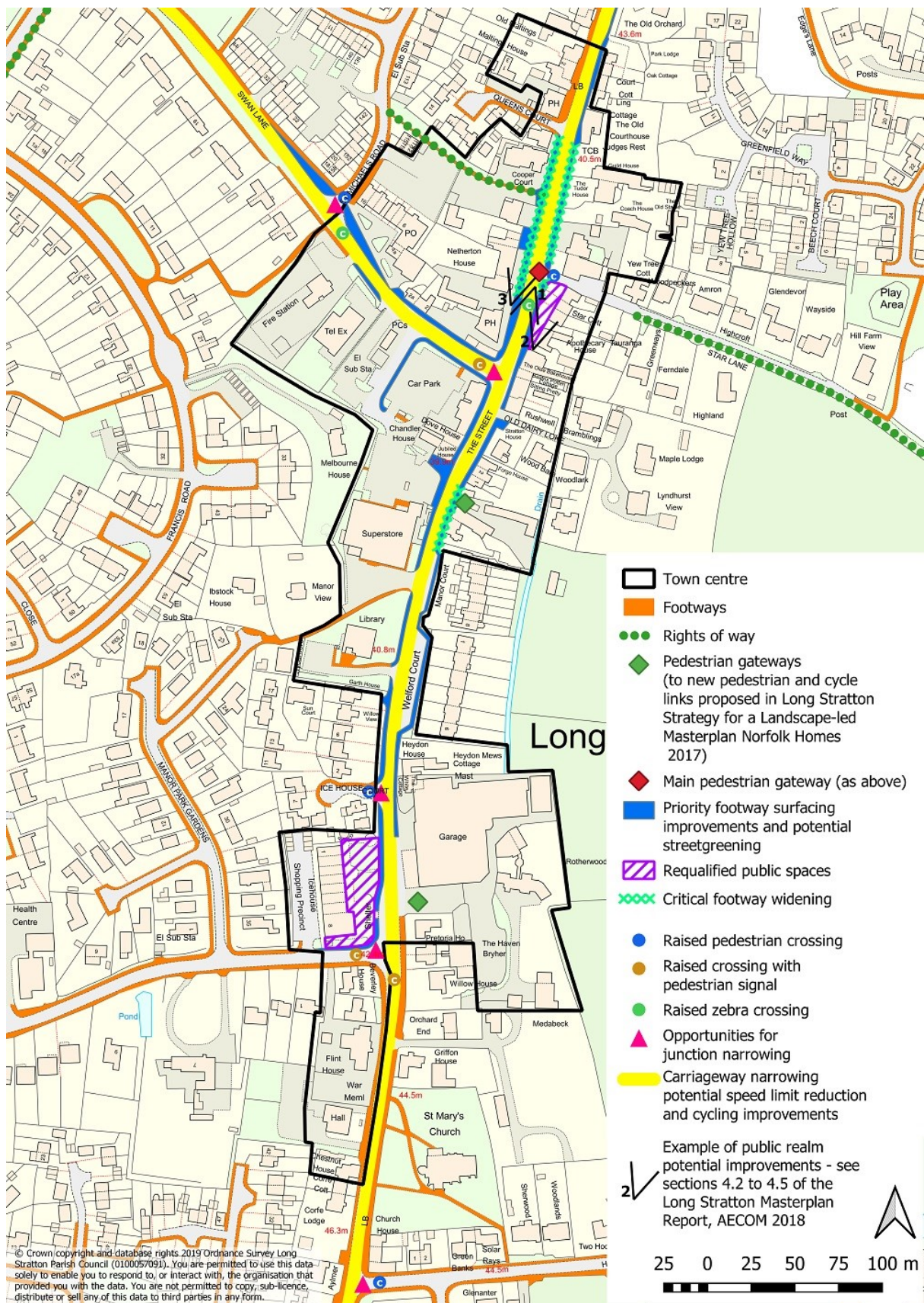


**Map 3. Pedestrian Movement in the Town Centre**





### Map 4. Opportunities for Improvement



## **Policy LSNP – TC13– Re-establishing The Street as the heart of the town**

Development proposals coming forward as part of the Long Stratton Area Action Plan proposals will be supported subject to contributions being secured (either through S106 where applicable or through the payment of CIL) towards environmental enhancement measures in the defined town centre<sup>18</sup> in line with adopted Policy LNGS1 and where these will help establish The Street as the heart of the town. These measures could include:

**Measures to improve pedestrian permeability throughout the town centre:**

1. Implementation of traffic calming measures along The Street
2. A programme of works to widen pavement widths and removing obstacles such as railings and pebbled surfaces
3. Highway works at the Flowerpot Lane/A140 junction that results in improved pedestrian safety
4. Highway works along The Street between Swan Lane and Star Lane in order to increase pedestrian prioritisation and safety (for example through a raised zebra crossing)

**Measures to help create attractive town centre public spaces:**

1. Creation of pocket parks along The Street with plants and trees
2. Creation of equipped play areas in locations with high amenity valued and not adversely impacted by noise, air or vibration pollution
3. Greening the environment through tree and vegetation planting
4. Installation of additional seating in locations with high amenity value and not adversely impacted by noise, air or vibration pollution

**Measures to improve access for cyclists:**

1. Implementation of traffic calming measures along The Street
2. Installation of bicycle parking facilities in locations which are needed by cyclists
3. Creation of cycle routes either along The Street, Swan Lane and other town centre routes.

**Measures which help retain or enhance community facilities:**

1. Provision of improved public toilet facilities

Other development proposals coming forward within or adjacent to the defined town centre will be expected to design in environmental enhancement works, as listed above as applicable and appropriate to each scheme.

Policy intent

- 5.5.8 To ensure that the town centre can be 'by-pass' ready and to ensure that needed environmental enhancements are implemented in the town centre when the by-pass is built out. This will help establish Long Stratton as a thriving, busy and attractive town centre functioning as the primary community hub and destination point serving an increased population.

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<sup>18</sup> Town centre is defined in the Area Action Plan proposals map and is also shown in Map 4 in this NP

- 5.5.9 The measures included in the policy are examples of suitable environmental enhancement measures which have been identified through the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. They are priorities shared by the community for improving public realm and the pedestrian environment along The Street. It is expected the delivery of these identified measures will be through a combination of developer contributions (where it meets the requirements of paragraph 56 in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) or any update to this), Town and Parish Council spending of CIL funding and through other Town and Parish Council-driven funding bids.
- 5.5.10 Long Stratton Town Council have prepared an action plan which includes aspirations and commitments for improving the town centre. These include the measures set out in Policy TC13. See Chapter 6 for more detail.
- 5.5.11 As the by-pass is being built and once it is in place, Long Stratton Town Council will continue to review the impact on the town centre and maintain a traffic management plan, in consultation with the community and stakeholders including Norfolk County Council as Local Highway Authority.
- 5.5.12 Item 3 in the second paragraph of the policy reflects an identified community desire as well as identified measure in the Long Stratton Masterplanning document for a pedestrian signalised junction to be installed at the Flowerpot/A140 junction. The most effective measure for improving pedestrian safety will be examined as part of working with Norfolk County Council as the Local Highway Authority.
- 5.5.13 Item 4 in the second paragraph of the policy reflects and identified community desire as well as an identified measure in the Long Stratton Masterplanning document for a raised crossing point to replace the existing signalised junction on the A140 between Swan Lane and Star Lane.

#### Context and reasoned justification

- 5.5.14 Establishing an active town centre in Long Stratton is a key component to ensuring the strong sense of place is retained and grows as the population grows. The town centre has some strong assets such as the conservation area, historic buildings and land mark community buildings such as St Mary's Church. The delivery of the by-pass will assist in moving traffic away but without further intervention the town centre will remain a space dominated by vehicular traffic. Public realm improvements and environmental enhancements are needed to create a successful town centre and are essential as part of any plans resulting in population growth in the plan area. In turn, the establishment of a successful town centre will help to facilitate good community cohesion simply by creating successful spaces where people from different neighborhoods can come together.
- 5.5.15 This policy complements Policy LNGS1 of the AAP which requires the site to deliver environmental enhancements to the town centre.

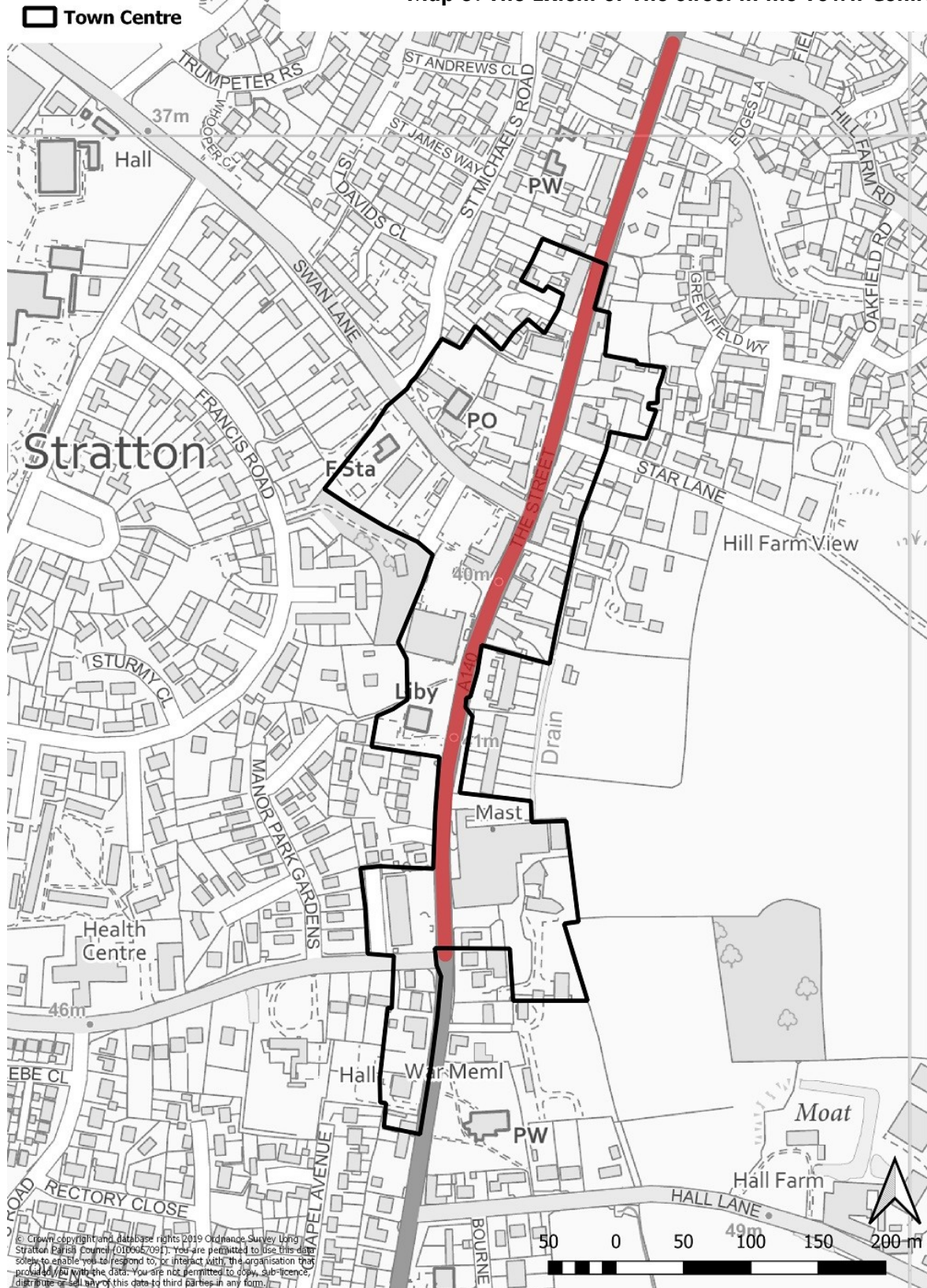


5.5.16 Long Stratton Town Council will need to work alongside stakeholders including South Norfolk Council and Norfolk County Council as Local Highway Authority to help delivery of town centre improvement initiatives.



Figure 5.12 Greening the environment, this example is along Swan Lane (source: NP committee)

Map 5. The Extent of The Street in the Town Centre





## **Policy LSNP – TC14 – Long Stratton market place**

**Proposals involving the creation of a new market place in the town centre will be supported subject to:**

- **the effective engagement with the community and other stakeholders taking place which addresses detail such as design, pedestrian and vehicle movements**
- **provision of parking for market stall holders and visitors being adequately addressed**

Policy intent

5.5.17 To encourage proposals to come forward for the provision of a new market place in Long Stratton.

Context and reasoned justification

5.5.18 The Long Stratton masterplanning document included a recommendation to create a new market place in Long Stratton and included illustrations of a market place on The Plain. When asked if we should have a market place, the majority of residents have been in favour. Some residents however are not in support of a new market place. One of the reasons why some residents may not be in support of a new market place is concern regarding the impact on availability of town centre parking spaces.

## **Policy LSNP – TC15 The Fire Station and Telephone Exchange**

**In the event of the Fire Station and Telephone Exchange Site – see Map 6 coming forward for redevelopment during the plan period, support will be given for a comprehensive mixed-use scheme subject to:**

- **retention of existing or replacement with improved toilet facilities or, alternatively, reprovision of public toilet facilities on alternative town centre site;**
- **adequate provision of off-street parking to meet the demand generated by the development;**
- **conservation or enhancement of heritage assets and their setting including the conservation area itself; and**
- **high quality landscaping providing visual amenity and green infrastructure to town centre visitors.**

**The following uses would be welcomed:**

- **provision of a town centre public open space and a market place;**
- **provision of town centre uses at ground floor level; and**
- **provision of additional town centre car parking capacity.**

Policy intent

5.5.19 During the plan period 2018 to 2036, it is considered possible that proposals to redevelop the Fire Station and Telephone exchanges will come forward. The purpose of this policy is to articulate clearly the priorities shared by the community with regard





## OUTDOOR RECREATION, GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND BIODIVERSITY POLICIES

- 5.6 The planning policies in this section seek to create improved opportunities for green infrastructure and recreation in the NP area.

### Policy LSNP GI16 – Long Stratton recreational open space standards

**All development proposals will be required to make provision (either on-site or off-site as a commuted sum) for recreational open space commensurate with the level of development proposed in order to meet the needs generated by the development. Demonstrable regard should be had to South Norfolk Council's Open Space Supplementary Planning Document 2018, or any updates to this, when identifying appropriate requirements.**

**New recreational open space should, wherever appropriate, be designed to contribute to local biodiversity for example through provision of ecological corridors (trees, hedges and scrub along boundaries for a wide range of species and carbon capture, and wildflower areas subject to relaxed cutting regimes away from key sports areas for pollinators) along boundaries and informal areas.**

#### Policy Intent

- 5.6.1 To ensure appropriate amounts of recreational open space is provided as part of new development coming forward in the plan area.
- 5.6.2 To complement:
- adopted Policy LINGS1 *Land East, South-East and North-West of Long Stratton* which requires, amongst other things  
*'Provision of open space including children's play space and older children/adult open space sufficient to meet the needs of residents of the development'*
  - adopted Policy LINGS6 *Protecting Existing Recreation or Amenity Land in Long Stratton* -protects existing land within the plan area
  - adopted Policy LINGS7 *New Recreation Provision in Long Stratton* - requires developers to provide new on-site public open space as part of the allocation LINGS1 in Long Stratton commensurate with the level of development proposed
  - adopted policy DM13 *Outdoor play facilities and recreational space*
- 5.6.3 This policy applies to all proposals coming forward in the Neighbourhood Plan area and reflects up to date guidance provided in South Norfolk Council's Open Spaces SPD *'Guidelines for Recreational Provision in Residential Developments'* September 2018.
- 5.6.4 Recreational open space is an umbrella term intended to cover:
- children's' play space (equipped play areas to serve up to 11-year-olds);
  - older children's' and adults' recreational space (multi-use games areas, trim trails, skate parks); and

- informal recreation space (natural green space, allotments and other forms of informal recreation areas.

#### Context and reasoned justification

- 5.6.5 As evidenced by South Norfolk in their PPG17, 'Open Spaces, Indoor Sports and Community Recreation Assessment' published in 2007, Long Stratton is deficient in all types of open space. Accordingly, the AAP requires developers to provide additional space as part of the 1,800 site allocation.
- 5.6.6 South Norfolk Council produced the Open Spaces SPD 'Guidelines for Recreational Provision in Residential Developments' in September 2018. This SPD (intended to supplement the Council's Development Management Policy DM3.15: 'Outdoor play facilities and recreational space') provides a tool to calculate the open space requirement a development will generate. The SPD should be used to inform the quantity and quality of open space provided as part of any new development. The SPD applies the following standards:

**Figure 5.13: Open Space Classifications and Standards used by South Norfolk Council and applied in 2018 Open Spaces SPD**

<b>Recreational Open Space Classification</b>	<b>Standards (m2 per 1,000 population hectares (ha) per 1,000 population)</b>
Children's Play space (including a minimum activity zone of 400 m2)	6,000 m2 (0.6 ha)
Older Children and Adult Recreation Space: a) Open space; and b) Playing Pitches and Courts	a) 3,000 m2 (0.3 ha) b) 16,000 m2 (1.6 ha)
Informal Recreation Space	24,000 m2 (2.4 ha)
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,000 m2 (4.9ha)</b>

- 5.6.7 The recreational open space standards apply to all residential development of 15 units or more.
- 5.6.8 The requirement for recreational open space is separate from the provision of landscaping and other amenity spaces which form an equally important element of the design of new developments, although as stated in the 2018 SPD, the dual use of land may be considered acceptable provided the land uses do not prejudice one another.
- 5.6.9 As stated in the SPD larger scale facilities, including formal sports pitches, courts and greens, swimming pools and sports halls, may also be provided on-site as part of strategic scale developments; however, they are more likely to be funded (at least partly) through the pooled Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) pot and timetabled for delivery through the Greater Norwich Infrastructure Plan.
- 5.6.10 Planting should be with local provenance seeds (collected locally) wherever possible. The NP would support schemes which provide opportunities for residents, community

groups and local schools to participate in community planting schemes because we consider this will assist in strengthening sense of place and community pride as the population grows.

### **Policy LSNP GI17 – Delivering green infrastructure in Long Stratton**

Where under Local Plan provisions Green Infrastructure is required as part of new development in the plan area, the nature of the provision will respond to the following plan area priorities:

- **Locating and designing green infrastructure with a view to maximising accessibility and connectivity between neighbourhoods (existing and new) and outdoor recreational areas, taking into account and utilising opportunities to link up with existing public rights of way.**
- **Relieving visitor pressure on ecologically sensitive sites in the vicinity of the plan area including Tyrrel's Wood and Wood Green through:**
  - **Creation of a new extensive area of common land within walking distance and on walking routes to and from existing and proposed residential areas**
  - **The creation of new areas of informal open space attractive to dog walkers on walking routes to and from existing/proposed residential areas**
- **Maintain or improve connectivity to the countryside beyond the new bypass.**
- **Recognise, protect and incorporate locally characteristic features including greens, hedgerows, woodlands and ponds and locally distinctive landscapes.**
- **Retain and enhance connectivity for biodiversity through public rights of way, hedgerows, protection of water features and wildlife corridors.**
- **Include provision designed for the purpose of promoting health and wellbeing (including physical exercise).**

Policy intent

5.6.11 To maximise the benefit of green infrastructure being provided as part of new development.

5.6.12 To complement adopted policy LINGS5 *General Green Infrastructure Requirements for new development within Long Stratton AAP Area* - This policy states that new development will be required to maintain, protect and enhance green infrastructure, and developers will be expected to contribute towards green infrastructure requirements. The AAP also includes a Map shown in Appendix 3 which identifies the identified and necessary green infrastructure requirements.

5.6.13 In this policy, green infrastructure is a term used which includes areas of open land in the plan area that have specific biodiversity benefits. It includes wildlife corridors, public rights of way, county wildlife sites, areas of woodland and trees. In many cases, the green infrastructure is publicly accessible and often overlaps with the function of providing informal recreation space (as required in Policy LSNP GI16) but sometimes the green infrastructure could have limited recreational value to people and may not be publicly accessible.

## Context and reasoned justification

5.6.14 The protection of existing green infrastructure and the provision of additional green infrastructure when new development comes forward is also given importance in The Place Making Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) produced by South Norfolk in 2012. The document notes that modern housing estates give the settlement a hard perimeter. As noted in the AAP *“New development will be the interface between the built environment and the countryside; as such the identification and implementation of green infrastructure will need to be an integral element of proposals. Integrating the locally characteristic greens, hedgerows, woodlands and ponds into the development to the east of Long Stratton and links to the river valleys from development to the north-west will be key considerations.”*

5.6.15 A priority of the Neighbourhood Plan is that green infrastructure, recreation facilities and informal green infrastructure is distributed throughout the plan area so that all neighbourhoods have access to these amenities. Community engagement work has identified a community-shared aspiration for a network of sporting facilities around the town such as a sporting trim trail.

### **Biodiversity benefits of open space provision**

5.6.16 The protection and provision of additional informal open space provision will help to alleviate pressure on existing sites of biodiversity value in and around Long Stratton. Norfolk Wildlife Trust looked at the impacts of recreational pressures on Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and county wildlife sites with public access as part of a study undertaken in 2017. The report finds that pressure on Tyrrel’s Wood was considerable and damaging to wildlife. The report found that 50% visitors came from Long Stratton, were all driving, were predominantly there to walk their dogs (as is the case with other visitors) and visited the wood frequently and were driving a short distance because they perceived a lack of public open space within Long Stratton. The report also found visitor pressure at Wood Green, a site found to be mostly visited by Long Stratton residents and a site accessed by foot and by car.



Figure 5.14 Wood Green Common (source: NP committee)

## **Policy LSNP GI18 – Green infrastructure management**

**Development Proposals will be expected to provide robust arrangements for the future maintenance of all new green infrastructure areas and features (including public open space, new habitat provision, surface drainage infrastructure, landscape mitigation areas, pedestrian and cycle paths and related furniture and structures).**

**This means:**

- i. Where the developer transfers the adoption and responsibility for maintaining the open space over to Long Stratton Town Council (for spaces in the parished area of Long Stratton), over to the Tharston and Hapton Parish Council (for spaces in the parish of Tharston and Hapton) or over to another community body, there will be a requirement for future maintenance to be funded by the developer for a minimum of 10 years. In some circumstances, where the size and nature of the green infrastructure presents specific complexity to deem it necessary, this may be extended to 15 years to secure successful provision of the open space to the community it is intended to serve.**
- ii. In line with South Norfolk's Open Spaces SPD adopted in September 2018, developers will be expected to follow the hierarchy of management in the Neighbourhood Plan area. For spaces in the Long Stratton parished area, the Long Stratton Town Council will have first refusal for the management of the space and for spaces in the parish of Tharston and Hapton, the Parish Council of Tharston and Hapton will have first refusal of the management of the space.**
- iii. Due to the expectation set out in ii) above, the developer will be required, at an early stage, to consult Long Stratton Town Council and Tharston and Hapton Parish Council in the design and layout of proposed new open spaces.**

**Policy intent**

**5.6.17 To ensure that mechanisms are in place for the future management of any additional green infrastructure provided as part of a development proposal.**

**Context and reasoned justification**

**5.6.18 It is explained in The Guidelines for Recreation Provision in New Residential Developments SPD (the Open Spaces SPD), that the district will no longer take on the ownership or maintenance of new recreational open spaces or play areas. Responsibility for the management of the new public green infrastructure will therefore need to be taken on by others such as Long Stratton Town Council, Tharston and Hapton Parish Council, an appropriate community group or a designated management company. Whichever body takes on the responsibility of managing new green infrastructure resources it is essential that a funding structure and principles regarding future management are established at the outset.**

**5.6.19 Paragraph 2 in Chapter 6 of South Norfolk's 2018 Open Spaces SPD specifically states that developers expected to provide recreational open space will be expected to follow the 'hierarchy' of management which means offering as the preferred course**

of action the land to the relevant parish or town council (with a ten-year maintenance sum); then if the parish or town council does not wish to take on the land, offering the land (with a ten-year maintenance sum) to any community association or similar body; or lastly the developer will either retain the land or pass it to a management company approved by the district council.

5.6.20 The new approach adopted by the District Council increases the importance of the relevant Parish or Town Council being involved, at an early stage, in the design and layout of open space being provided.

### **LSNP GI19 – Protecting existing sites of biodiversity value in the plan area**

**The sites identified on Map 7 are recognised for the value they contribute towards protecting and maintaining biodiversity in the parish.**

- i. Tyrrel's Wood County Wildlife Site**
- ii. Wood Green County Wildlife Site**
- iii. Wet Meadow on Swan Lane**
- iv. Area of grassland with pond and hedges behind the allotments**
- v. Roadside nature reserves in the parish including Wood Lane**

**Any development proposals which impact upon identified biodiversity assets including the sites listed here will contribute to, rather than detract from, their biodiversity value. When assessing possible impacts, consideration will be given to wildlife connectivity to and from these sites.**

**Where a development proposal is likely to adversely impact a site of biodiversity value, the proposal will be refused unless the benefits of the development proposal in the location clearly outweighs the adverse impacts. Where significant impacts to biodiversity are likely to occur, permission will only be granted if impacts are adequately mitigated for or, as a last resort, compensated for. In all cases, development proposals will be expected to deliver net gains in biodiversity which means delivering measurable improvements for biodiversity by creating or enhancing habitats as part of the development proposal.**

**New built structures which incorporate new biodiversity features such as green roofs, walls, bat and swift bricks, and permeable boundaries between new development plots, are welcomed, and may be required as part of achieving a net gain in biodiversity as required in Policy LNGS5 of the Area Action Plan.**

Policy intent

5.6.21 To complement the policy approach provided in adopted AAP Policy LNGS5.

Context and reasoned justification

5.6.22 The Norfolk Wildlife Trust (NWT) advise that Tyrrel's Wood County Wildlife site supports priority species - great crested newt *Triturus cristatus* and a maternity roost of



barbestelle (Norfolk Barbestelle Study Group data). In places, the woodland ground flora is good, with sanicle, bluebell and yellow archangel.

- 5.6.23 The NWT advise that Wood Green supports a mosaic of species-rich grassland types with three orchid species, plus scrub, mature trees and a number of ponds of high-water quality and which support a diverse flora. Priority species recorded here include great crested newt and foraging barbestelle bat, plus water vole *Arvicola amphibious* and breeding turtle dove *Streptopelia turtur*. Hunting barn owl and buzzard also recorded (data from NWT surveys).
- 5.6.24 The indicative Green Infrastructure Plan for Long Stratton (provided in Appendix 3 to the AAP) maps indicative green corridors to be planned in as part of the strategy for ensuring green infrastructure connectivity (for the benefit of biodiversity) is maintained or enhanced as development comes forward. Any green infrastructure corridors that are instrumental to connecting existing areas of biodiversity value should be safeguarded.
- 5.6.25 Up until May 2018 a Green Infrastructure Working Group for Long Stratton was focused on ensuring green infrastructure and biodiversity assets were properly safeguarded and planned for as part of the proposed development. The group comprised Long Stratton Parish Council, Norfolk County Council, South Norfolk Council and Norfolk Wildlife Trust. As part of the GI work undertaken by the group, the wet meadow on Swan Lane (opposite surgery) and the grassland with pond and hedges behind the allotments were identified as important contributory spaces in the wider green infrastructure network for Long Stratton.



Figure 5.15 Wet meadow on Swan Lane (source: NP committee)



Figure 5.16 Pond behind the allotments (source: NP committee)

5.6.26 Adopted Policy LNGS5 *General Green Infrastructure Requirements for New Developments within Long Stratton AAP Area* (AAP Policy) includes provisions for the protection of biodiversity. Specifically, it requires proposals a 'to enable and where appropriate provide.'

- the 'retention of habitat features and creation of new habitats
- functional ecological connections between priority species and habitats and designated sites in the vicinity of Long Stratton

5.6.27 The green infrastructure map at Appendix 3 of the AAP identifies the existing designated sites in the vicinity of Long Stratton and identifies green infrastructure requirements for new developments.

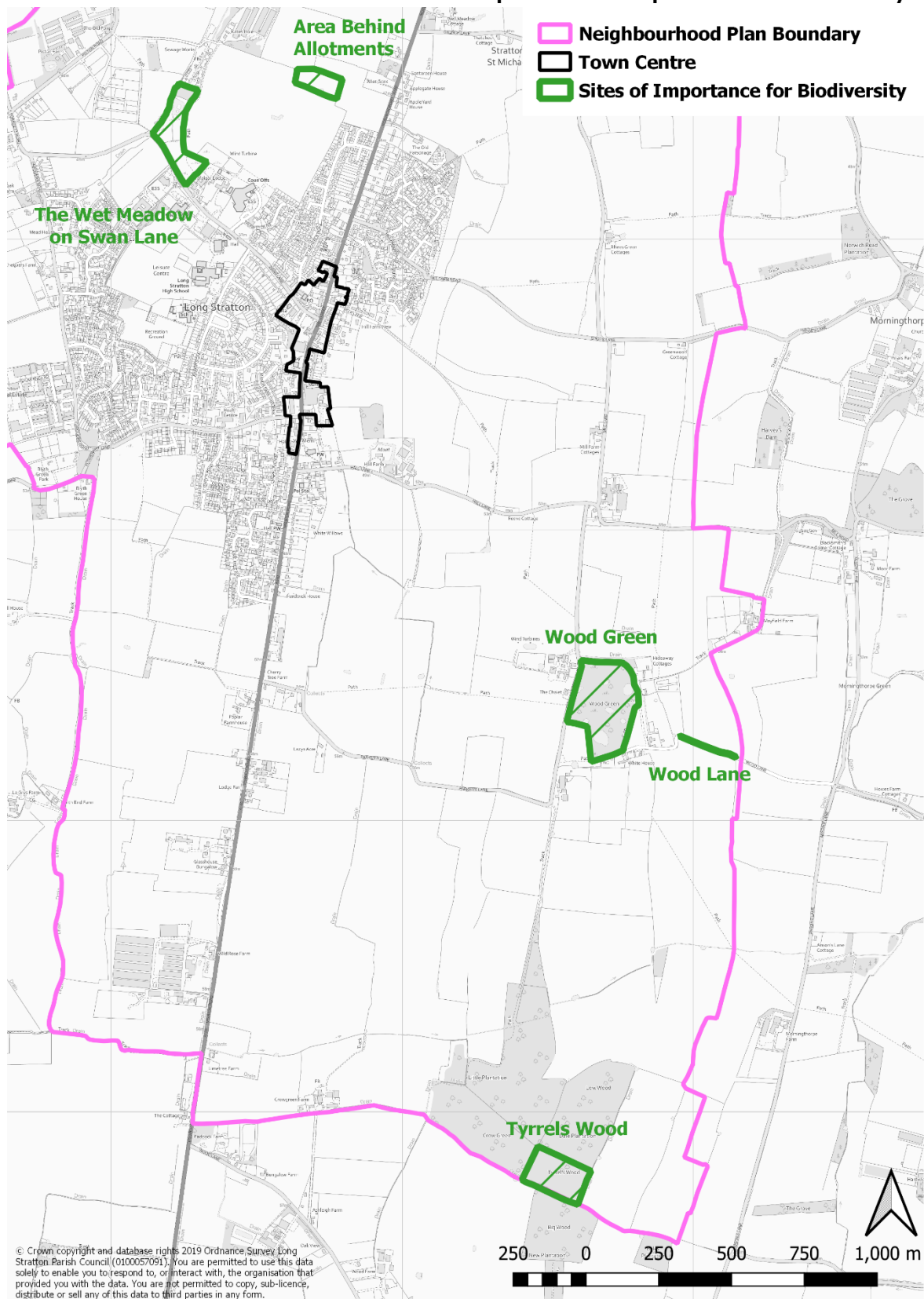
5.6.28 Policy LNGS5 also states that:

*All new development should deliver a net biodiversity gain and any planning proposals should be accompanied by detailed ecological assessment, where appropriate. The cumulative impact of developments on biodiversity assets should be taken into account as part of the planning application process.*

5.6.29 This Neighbourhood Plan supports the policy requirements regarding biodiversity in the adopted Policy LNGS5.

5.6.30 Green roofs and walls can make an important contribution to nature conservation and energy efficiency of buildings, as well as slowing down surface water run-off. Integral nest and roost boxes for declining and vulnerable species such as swifts and bats are recommended to be installed as mandatory except where unsuitable. In addition, boundaries between new development plots should also be made permeable (i.e. with suitable gaps between or underneath fences) for hedgehogs, to help ensure that they can remain a resident species in the parish, given the widespread and rapid declines the species has faced nationally in recent years.

**Map 7: Sites of Importance for Biodiversity**



### **Policy LSNP R20 - Delivering a new community meeting space in Long Stratton**

**Development proposals for a new town hall or community meeting space will be supported subject to:**

- **The new facility being centrally located and accessible in terms of public transport and walking and cycling routes, and being capable of providing overflow town-centre parking capacity**
- **Provision of adequate off-street parking so that on street parking problems are not triggered by the development**

**Map 8 accompanying this plan identifies the preferred location for a new community centre in Long Stratton**

**Development proposals coming forward as part of the strategic site allocation set out in Policy LNSG1 of the Area Action Plan will be supported subject to land being provided for the provision of a new centrally located community centre for Long Stratton. In addition, developer contributions towards the building and delivery of the site will be sought where justified (i.e where a development proposal generates new (unmet) demand for community meeting space and town centre improvements).**

**Contributions towards the delivery of the community centre will continue to be sought from all other major development proposals in the plan area where justified (i.e where a development proposal generates new (unmet) demand for community meeting space and town centre improvements).**

Policy intent

5.6.31 To facilitate the delivery of a new town hall or similar community meeting space close to the town centre as the population grows. Specifically the NP would support the delivery of this facility on land south of Star Lane which was part of the proposal as submitted in a planning application by Norfolk Homes Ltd in 2018 – see Map 8.

5.6.32 The provision of land for a new town hall/community meeting space and construction of a new town hall/community meeting space will be sought where justified such as part of the strategic development allocated as part of the adopted Area Action Plan or as part of any other major development proposals. In this context, major development applies to residential developments of 10 dwellings or more. Developer contributions towards the delivery of the facility will be sought where this is necessary for the completion of the project and justified through the additional demand created by the development proposal. In this context, additional demand includes:

- additional demand for community meeting space and facilities to meet the needs of future occupiers
- additional demand for town centre based off street parking provision to meet the needs of future occupiers

5.6.33 The delivery of the centrally-located Long Stratton community centre is considered to be necessary in order to:

- sustain a healthy town centre to meet the everyday needs of current and future residents;
- minimizing the need for car based journeys in the plan area;
- secure successful integration of a new community with an existing community; and achieve
- successful place-making.

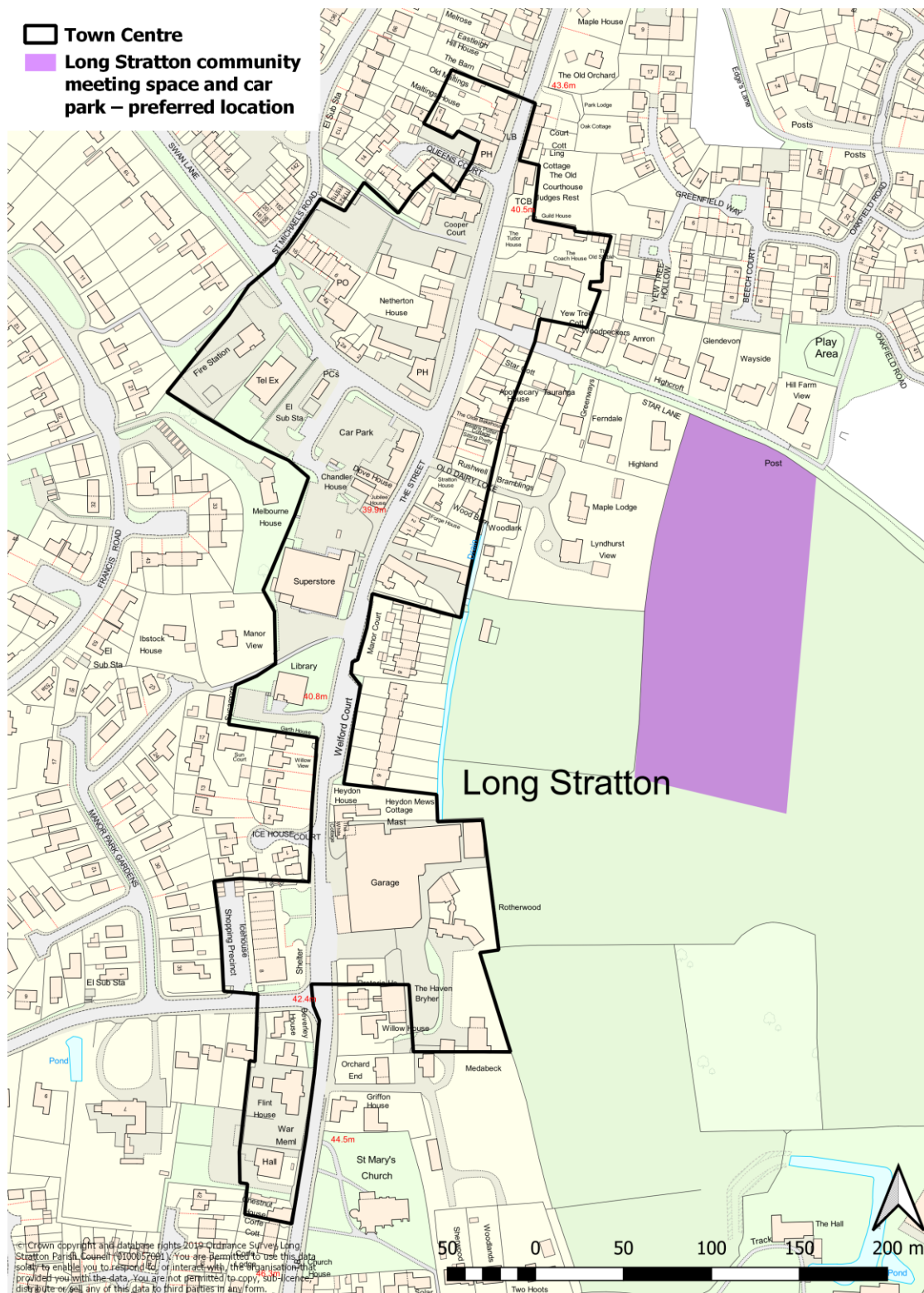
5.6.34 In terms of assessing quantitative need for additional meeting space, the latest available guidance on this from South Norfolk Council is as per the Greater Norwich Infrastructure Needs and Funding Study published in December 2007. This report states in paragraph 2.32 and Table 2.3 the following standards:

- 61 sq metres per 1,000 population of community meeting space
- 26.5 sq metres per 1,000 population of library space

5.6.35 More recently than this the consultation on the Greater Norwich Local Plan was in March 2020 accompanied by a supporting evidence which includes the Greater Norwich Local Plan Infrastructure Needs Report. However, this report did not include information on community meeting space standards.



**Map 8: Long Stratton community meeting space and car park – preferred location**





## Context and reasoned justification

5.6.36 The existing village hall on Ipswich Road is a popular facility and well used. However, it is also fully booked throughout the year. As the town expands when the AAP development comes forward, it will be necessary to provide an additional facility in the plan area.



Figure 5.17 Long Stratton Village Hall (source: NP committee)

5.6.37 Community engagement undertaken as part of this plan and as documented in the Consultation Statement demonstrates there is strong community support for a new community meeting space centrally located in Long Stratton. There is also demand for additional community space from existing community groups including brownies, guides and scouts to keep pace with the development and the potential increment in people wanting to join these organisations.

5.6.38 Due to current and projected growth in the plan area and in light of the existing town centre car parking capacity issues (described elsewhere in this plan), it is essential that the new facility has the capacity to provide additional car parking spaces for town centre visitors.

5.6.39 In addition, the Long Stratton library located on The Street is an important community facility, particularly for Long Stratton's older and younger population (who tend to use the facilities more than others). As the town expands, the NP group consider it appropriate to house Long Stratton library facilities within a larger community hub. It is considered this would provide better access to library facilities for all residents. Co-location with other community uses would also have the benefit of helping the library strengthen its offer.

5.6.40 The Long Stratton community aspires towards the delivery of a multi-use community centre along the lines delivered at Poringland in 2017. This is considered to work well because it is a place where people can use different services in one visit. As with the

Poringland Community Centre, Long Stratton Town Council are keen to see improved library facilities, together with a Police drop in centre and capacity for 200 car parking spaces.

5.6.41 The provision of such a community hub at a central location as shown on Map 8 is considered an essential part of place making that will help achieve the vision underpinning this NP and in particular objectives 2, 3, 5 and 7:

- Objective 2: Successful integration between our new community and existing community where new community facilities are located in sustainable locations and which facilitates good cycle and pedestrian connectivity
- Objective 3: A strong sense of place incorporating sustainable design
- Objective 5: Opportunities to enhance the town centre will be realised
- Objective 7: Infrastructure necessary to support the growing community will come forward in a timely manner

5.6.42 The hybrid planning application submitted by Norfolk Homes Ltd in January 2018 proposes a site for a new community centre on land to the east of the A140 and on the south side of Star Lane. This is supported by the Neighbourhood Plan.

5.6.43 The preferred route for delivering the Long Stratton community centre is through S106 contributions. This is because within the Greater Norwich area, the CIL is pooled and projects then prioritised across the three-district area. In order to access the funds, Long Stratton Town Council would need to make a case as to why the community centre should be prioritised over projects. This is not considered an appropriate route given the uncertainty in delivery this would create and given the direct relationship between the planned development in Long Stratton and the need for a new community centre.

5.6.44 Once the Neighbourhood Plan is made, the town council will receive 25% of CIL receipts within its area to spend on projects that support the delivery of growth and, if the community centre is not delivered via S106 agreements, the town council will have the option of prioritising the community centre for spending of this 'local' element of CIL.

## **Policy LSNP R21 – A new swimming pool for a larger community**

**The provision of a new swimming pool facility serving the community at large in an accessible location would be supported.**

**As the town grows, and subject to the business case, together with a delivery mechanism, for a new swimming pool facility being demonstrated by the Town and Parish Councils, contributions may be sought from developers towards the provision of this key piece of infrastructure.**

Policy intent

5.6.45 It is beyond the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan to deliver a new swimming pool facility in Long Stratton. However, the strong aspiration shared across the board by the community for a new swimming pool is acknowledged. The intent of this policy is to send a strong signal to providers and developers.

Context and reasoned justification

5.6.46 The provision of a new swimming pool in the plan area is very popular aspiration in the community. In all the community consultation that has taken place it is clear that the vast majority of residents wish to see a swimming pool being provided in Long Stratton that would be open for the public to use. The Town Council intends to work alongside stakeholders including South Norfolk Council to explore options and feasibility for the delivery of a swimming pool.

5.6.47 There are existing plans in place to bring the 15m learner pool at the current school back into use and to provide public access to this facility once opened. Whilst this is strongly welcomed, this pool will not address the current demand for a swimming pool suitable for those who are established swimmers. The nearest swimming pool facility to Long Stratton is in Diss or in Wymondham (both 11 miles away). A new facility in Long Stratton would not only satisfy demand in our growing community but in the wider rural area which Long Stratton serves for other shops and services.

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## SUPER FAST BROADBAND

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- 5.7 The objective underpinning this policy section is for the most technically advanced communications infrastructure to be in place to serve Long Stratton's growing resident and business community.
- 5.7.1 Underpinning this objective is a priority to secure economic success in Long Stratton as the settlement grows. The provision of super-fast broadband speeds is an essential part of this.
- 5.7.2 The Better Broadband for Norfolk (BBfN) Initiative is a multi-million pound partnership through Norfolk County Council, BT and the Department of Culture, Media and Sport via BDUK (Broadband Delivery UK) – with additional support from the New Anglia LEP, and five of Norfolk's district councils. It is transforming Norfolk's broadband speeds by installing high-speed fibre optic networks across the county.
- 5.7.3 Long Stratton Town Council and Tharston and Hapton Parish Council support this initiative and consider it crucial that high-speed fibre optic networks are also provided as part of new development coming forward in the Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan area. They have worked with infrastructure and development partners to make sure this can happen.
- 5.7.4 In October 2017, the Long Stratton AAP developers (Norfolk Homes Ltd and Norfolk Land Ltd) reached an agreement with BT Openreach, Long Stratton Parish Council and the Member of Parliament for South Norfolk Richard Bacon that all new development (including dwellings and employment uses) in the plan area would receive Fibre to the Premises (FTTP). Fibre to the Premises is a form of fibre-optic communication delivery, in which an optical fibre is run in an optical distribution network from the central office all the way to the premises (dwelling, place of work etc).
- 5.7.5 As part of this initiative BT Openreach have committed to providing 1000 homes with high speed networks with no cost to the developer and developers have agreed that all necessary physical infrastructure (trenchwork and laying down of fibre infrastructure rather than copper infrastructure) will be provided with no cost to the buyer of the premise.
- 5.7.6 In the process of new developments being planned and built in Long Stratton, it is crucial that every partner in the development chain contribute as applicable to securing super-fast broadband to new premises in Long Stratton. What this means in practice is that the developers will be required to design in the physical infrastructure including underground trenches but it will be the responsibility of the individual house builder or builder of other types of premises (employment and community uses) to ensure the correct and most up to date technology is laid down and linked up to every new dwelling and property.

5.7.7 Where planning applications come forward in locations that do not fall within the scope of strategic development allowed through AAP Policy LINGS1, it is acknowledged it may not be possible to lay down the physical infrastructure required to provide Fibre to the Premises. In these cases, the developer will be expected to utilise the infrastructure provided in the plan area (through the strategic development) and deliver superfast broadband to newly created premises via Fibre to the Cabinet infrastructure.

5.7.8 To guarantee that superfast broadband is delivered in every new development, the requirement set out in Policy LSNP C22 may be subject to a planning condition.

### **LSNP – C22 Fibre to the premises**

**All development proposals, involving new build, shall include the necessary infrastructure to allow for the delivery of superfast broadband.**

**For any development proposals coming forward as part of the strategic site allocation (Policy LINGS1 in the Area Action Plan) this involves the installation of fibre infrastructure<sup>1</sup> (and digging of any trenches necessitated by this) to serve all planned premises as well as the installation of Fibre to the Premises technology (or the most up to date version of) to serve each planned dwelling or place of work.**

**For other development coming forward in locations not part of this strategic development, this means provision of infrastructure that facilitates superfast broadband through Fibre to the Cabinet technology.**

<sup>1</sup>as opposed to copper infrastructure

## 6. NON-PLANNING COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

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- 6 Non-planning community aspirations are further matters to be considered alongside the planning policies set out in this plan. These community aspirations express the intentions shared by Long Stratton Town Council and Tharston and Hapton Parish Council with regard to what actions that should come forward which can not be delivered through implementation of the planning policies alone.

### **Expenditure of CIL monies**

- 6.1 During the plan period, the Parish Council of Tharston and Hapton and the Town Council of Long Stratton will receive community infrastructure levy (CIL) monies generated when new development proposals are delivered. Tharston and Hapton Parish Council will receive CIL monies for schemes delivered in their parished area and Long Stratton Town Council will receive CIL monies for schemes delivered in the civil parish of Long Stratton. How these monies will be spent will be determined on an annual basis by the two councils. The spending of the monies will however reflect the priorities expressed in this plan.

### **Community Aspirations in Long Stratton**

- 6.2 The additional community aspirations for the plan area that falls within the civil parish of Long Stratton are:
- i. Long Stratton Town Centre improvements as set out in Policy TC13 of this plan.
  - ii. Pedestrian and cycling safety improvements as set out in Policy TC13 of this plan.
  - iii. Delivery of Long Stratton Market Place as set out in Policy TC14 of this plan.
  - iv. Delivery of a new Long Stratton Community Meeting Space as set out in Policy R20 of this plan.
  - v. Implementation of the management proposals set out in the Long Stratton Conservation Area Character Appraisal (see supporting text to Policy DC9 of this plan).
  - vi. Industry led initiatives to support training and apprenticeship schemes to benefit Long Stratton workforce.
  - vii. Further exploration into the viability of delivering a new swimming pool in Long Stratton (see Policy R21 of this plan).
  - viii. Community Aspirations set out in the Long Stratton Town Council Community Aspirations 2019 document made available as part of this plan and any subsequent updates to it (via agreement of the Long Stratton Town Council).
  - ix. We will work with stakeholders and seek a sheltered housing scheme or similar in the plan area.
  - x. We will work with stakeholders to seek improvements to cycle infrastructure to outlying areas including Tasburgh.
  - xi. We will work with stakeholders to seek a renewable energy scheme in the plan area where the schemes does not impact adversely on landscape character and where schemes deliver community benefits such as tariffs from the energy generated.



### **Community Aspirations in Tharston**

- 6.3 The additional community aspirations for the plan area that falls within the civil parish of Tharston and Hapton are:
- i. Industry led initiatives to support training and apprenticeship schemes to benefit Tharston workforce.
  - ii. Delivery of a Tharston and Hapton community building within the Tharston part of the NP area to meet the needs of the Tharston and Hapton residents and subject to consultation with Tharston and Hapton residents.
- 6.4 Long Stratton Town Council and Tharston and Hapton Parish Council recognise the importance of working with residents and community stakeholders during the plan period as we work towards the achievement of the aspirations set out in this Chapter. We will endeavour to maintain an open approach and will welcome collaborate working with key stakeholders including shops, businesses, Long Stratton High School and our many community-based groups.

## 7. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN MONITORING

7 The work on the NP has been undertaken by the NP Working Group which comprises residents and parish councillors from both the parish of Long Stratton and the parish of Tharston and Hapton. Under the NP legislation there can only be one qualifying body for the purpose of consulting on the NP and submitting the NP to SNC for examination. The qualifying body is Long Stratton Town Council and this is in agreement from the Parish of Tharston and Hapton. Once the NP is adopted, however, the implementation of the NP will become the responsibility of SNC. This is because SNC have responsibility for development management (the processing of planning applications) in the NP area.

7.1 Long Stratton Town Council will closely monitor new development proposals that come forward in the plan area as they are determined by SNC. Where proposals come forward in the parish of Tharston and Hapton, the two Councils will coordinate their monitoring of proposals. As part of this, Long Stratton Town Council will ensure that SNC are applying the adopted NP planning policies as required by legislation. In addition, it is proposed that Long Stratton Town Council also monitors the effectiveness of the NP policies themselves. As part of this the Town Council will monitor the following:

- i. Are SNC officers applying the NP policies as they are required by legislation?
- ii. The extent to which NP policies are breached if at all and why?
- iii. Are the NP policies themselves straightforward to apply to development proposals (by both SNC officers and the applicant)?
- iv. Are planning applicants using the NP policies as intended when they prepare their development proposals?
- v. Do the parish and town councillors find the NP policies easy to apply and understand?
- vi. Are the councillors using the NP in their decision making and consultation responses on planning applications coming forward in the parish?
- vii. The effectiveness of the NP policies in meeting the overall vision and objectives underpinning the NP.

7.2 Long Stratton will monitor the above aspects of the NP in the following ways:

**Table 7.1 When and how the two councils will monitor the Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan**

NP monitoring indicator	When	Method
i. Check whether SNC officers are applying the NP policies as required by legislation	When planning applications in the NP area are being considered and decided by SNC	Check the officers' reports and whether the NP policies are listed as part of the statutory development plan
ii. The extent to which NP policies are breached if at all and why?	When planning applications in the NP area are being considered and decided by SNC	Check for departures from the statutory development plan. These should be listed in the officers' reports

<b>NP monitoring indicator</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Method</b>
iii. Are the NP policies themselves straightforward to apply to development proposals (by both SNC officers and the applicant)?	Annually. Annual council meetings	Seek feedback from developers and SNC officers
iv. Are planning applicants using the NP policies as intended when they prepare their development proposals?	When two councils look at planning applications or are being consulted at the pre-application stage	Checking whether the planning application refers to the NP policies in their proposal and checking for compliance  Do developers and applicants use the NP as a starting point in their proposals and at pre-application stage?
v. Do the councillors find the NP policies easy to apply and understand?	Annually. Annual parish council meeting	Seek feedback from councillors
vi. Are the councillors using the NP in their decision making and consultation responses on planning applications coming forward in the parish?	When the councils, for example at planning committee, consider planning applications in the parish	Are the councillors considering the statutory development plan (the adopted Local Plan and the Long Stratton NP) as a starting point when considering planning applications and preparing responses back to SNC
vii. The effectiveness of the NP policies in meeting the overall vision and objectives underpinning the NP	Annual	Reviewing on an annual basis whether planning proposals and the future shape of the village are in accordance with the NP vision and objectives

7.3 Monitoring the above will help ensure the NP is implemented (by all users) as intended and assist Long Stratton Town Council and Tharston and Hapton Parish Council in understanding the added value provided by the NP and if a review of the NP is required.

7.4 It is proposed that at each annual parish and town council meeting, a report on the Neighbourhood Plan is prepared detailing its impact on development each year in the parish and providing a report against points i to vii above.

## Glossary

References used in the plan	Description
AECOM	A consulting firm that has undertaken evidence work to help with the preparation of the neighbourhood plan.
DCLG	Department of Communities and Local Government. Government department with responsibility for planning before being renamed to the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).
Development Plan	This is defined in section 38 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, and includes adopted local plans, neighbourhood plans that have been made and published spatial development strategies.
DSE Review 2017	Demographic and Socio-Economic Review 2017 A key evidence base document supporting this plan. A document summarising demographic information in the NP area. It was prepared as part of the NP preparation by Cambridgeshire ACRE on the behalf of the Long Stratton NP group. The document can be viewed on the NP website.
Long Stratton AAP	Long Stratton Area Action Plan. This is part of the statutory development plan and was adopted by South Norfolk in May 2016. A key policy in this plan allocates 140.1 hectares land for housing employment, a by-pass and associated infrastructure.
Long Stratton Design Guidelines	This is a set of design principles prepared by AECOM in 2019 on the behalf of the Long Stratton NP group. It is a key evidence base document supporting this plan. The purpose of the document is to inform the design of all future planning applications in the plan area. The document can be viewed on the NP website.
Long Stratton Housing Needs Assessment	A key evidence base document supporting this plan. An assessment of housing need in the plan area (market housing and affordable housing) undertaken by AECOM in 2017 on the behalf of the Long Stratton NP group. The document can be viewed on the NP website.
Long Stratton Masterplanning Report 2018	A report prepared by AECOM in 2018 on the behalf of the Long Stratton NP group. It is a key evidence base document supporting this plan. An overarching objective of the report was to advise how the planned re-routing of the A140 could be used as a catalyst to remodel the town centre in a more people-friendly way. The document can be viewed on the NP website.
NP	Neighbourhood Plan
NP area	The area to which this Neighbourhood Plan applies.
Permeability	Similar to the term connectivity, permeability is a term used in town planning practice, to describe how well the built environment allow for people for vehicles to travel in different directions. Good permeability is generally considered to be a positive aspect of a place.
Public realm	Area of open space hard (paved) or soft (vegetated) that members of the public enjoy either by looking at or using the space. Public realm includes pavements, parks and areas of space outside community facilities.
S106	A legal agreement (also known as planning obligations) entered into under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to mitigate the impacts of a development proposal.

SNC	South Norfolk Council
SPD	A supplementary planning document is prepared by a local planning authority to add further detail to the policies in its development plan. Supplementary planning documents are capable of being a material consideration in planning decisions but are not part of the development plan.
Survey Monkey	An online tool for undertaking surveys and analysis.
SWOT Analysis	An analysis for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats.



