

## Answers to SHPC Survey Questionnaire

1

**51.**

**Please provide your postcode. (38 responses were received from residents)**

**2.**

**Braintree District Council's Core Strategy contains a vision that, by 2026, 'The key service villages [e.g. Sible Hedingham] will have provided local housing, jobs and services, with regeneration taking place on identified sites.'**

**Do you agree that the proposed Premdor/Rockways Masterplan will make a positive contribution to that vision?**

5 Agree, 2 Don't know, 18 Disagree, 12 Strongly Disagree

**3.**

**At last year's public consultation regarding Braintree's Site Allocations planning document, many villagers felt that improvements were needed to the infrastructure before further development took place. Which of the following do you think are NOT adequately addressed by this Masterplan?**

Car Parking	13	Public Transport	22
Education	23	Retail outlets	16
Flooding	8	Sewerage	5
Medical services	25	Traffic	24
Open spaces	9	Employment	33

**4.**

**The Masterplan proposes around 236 new homes. What number of new homes do you think is appropriate on the Premdor site?**

0 – 50	8
51 – 100	2
101 – 150	8
151 – 200	7
201 – 250	10
More than 250	1

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5.

**Mid-Essex NHS Primary Care Trust has withdrawn its requirement for a new medical centre on the site. What would you like to see the land (approximately half an acre including the Work Hub) used for instead?**

Retail/small business units offering employment and bringing money into the local economy

left blank for centre later

A community Centre for Youth and elderly

LEISURE CENTRE

We badly need the medical centre.

new medical centre!

open land for possible future medical centre

I would like to see that area more green, allotment, parks and gardens. It's a village it should not be turned to a town.

youth club

Park

local business

Police Station

Sports facilities

Sports or allotments

Allotments and doctors

doctor allotments

allotments and or sports

Allotments

Allotments

Allotments

Allotments

allotments and play equipment

allotments and play equipment

allotments and play equipment

indoor swimming pool

allotments or play equipment

work/conference area

a medical centre

It is likely that a further retail outlet (similar to the Co-op?) will be required to meet the demands of 500-600 new residents and to encourage them to shop in Sible, rather than travelling to Braintree, Sudbury or Haverhill.

Medical centre – why was the requirement withdrawn?

Nothing

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**6.**

**Approximately half of the site is in the flood plain and unsuitable for building; of the useable land what percentage should be allocated to housing?**

40% - 60% 20

60% - 80% 14

80% - 100% 4

**7.**

**Will this plan reduce the need to travel by enabling people to access employment, housing, retail provision, public transport and key services?**

Yes 1

No 37

**8.**

**BDC's Core Strategy says that regeneration of this site must enhance the village. Do you agree that this plan will enhance Sible Hedingham?**

Strongly agree 1

Agree 6

Don't know 6

Disagree 10

Strongly disagree 15

**9.**

**Will the developer's suggestion for the employment hub adequately meet the needs of the community?**

No 38

**10.**

**BDC and SHPC have been unable to locate land for allotments within the village. How important do you think it is for allotment land to be located within the regeneration area as agreed in the original masterplan ?**

Not important 1

Not very important 5

Don't know 3

Important 9

Very important 20

**11.**

**If the developers were prepared to provide a financial contribution to sports facilities elsewhere in the village how would this change your view of the Masterplan?**

'Sports facilities which provide employment and add to the social and physical wellbeing of the community should be welcomed. Were the developer to contribute to such an off site facility it would make the building of 200 houses on the site more acceptable as it would be providing some improvement to local infrastructure.'

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### Question 11 continued

'My view is that I would like to see a community centre for the youth and the older people such as a day centre and something the young can get involved in. For instance if the youth and other people had a hand in running the community centre, I feel that they would take a pride in it. The older and other people could also oversee the running of the place. It would give the youth in particular an incentive. The vision i have is that the youth could have Pool tables and maybe some computers. Also some refreshments like a place have non-alcohol drinks and food. Also a place they can meet up with their mates. I feel that they need to be given some activity instead of standing around the streets and getting into trouble. Also the elder people say they miss The Baptist Church day Centre and would like to have a place again to meet. They enjoyed the time they spent with creative activities and outings, also a meal. They also had a mobile library to choose books to read. This I feel would help a lot of people in Sible Hedingham as the only Pub we have is the White Lion and the Snooker Club. Other than that there is nothing I feel that would encourage people to stay in Sible Hedingham.'

The situation within Sible as with a lot of communities that not enough is provided for young people which is why we have an anti-social behaviour problem in Sible. If the developers contributed towards a youth club facility that could provide activities for young people it would help, this could of course incorporate sports facilities for all age groups too.

It would not change my view. Contribution to sports facilities won't change the fact you have too many people crammed into too little housing.

Not at all

Not at all

Not at all

This would be a very positive benefit to the whole community and would have my whole support

Yes This would be a very benefit the whole village

Yes This would good for community and employment

Yes would benefit whole community

Yes would be a big improvement

would be a big improvement

yes would be good

Would be preferable to current proposal

it would not change my view

This would be excellent

## Answers to SHPC Survey Questionnaire

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this would be a good thing

### Question 11 continued

I would support this and this would make me look more favourably on the plan

This would be good

It would be a good thing

not enough of an incentive!

Wouldn't change my view - that is an irrelevance. Sports facilities may be helpful, but much more important is a) somewhere for people to work, b) somewhere for people to shop without adding to congestion on the roads and pollution c) additional services such as education, health services, etc.

Any developer contribution toward community facilities must be welcomed. I'm not sure that sports facilities alone would alter my views greatly, as i am generally in favour of the proposed development. I feel that all community facilities must be enhanced/improved, where required, to accomodate an additional 500-600 residents and facilitate their inclusion within the local community.

Sports facilities are fairly well catered for. My prime concern is that the development will provide about 100 primary age children. Are the developers prepared to provide extra classrooms, and in particular, pay for the improvement to School Road that would be required? There would probably be a similar number of secondary school children to be catered for.

Not at all

### 12.

#### How satisfied are you generally with the proposed Masterplan?

'This is yet another large housing estate without any consideration for the wellbeing of the community. It will cause further resentment amongst the residents and may ultimately create friction which will not be good for the developer when he markets the houses nor for future community cohesion. This village cannot keep absorbing the district council's housing quota without being given adequate facilities to make it sustainable. The contribution for public transport must be specifically targeted to provide a much needed regular commuter bus service between Sible Hedingham, the outlying villages and Sudbury. The marsh land given over for open spaces would not be suitable to build on and this large area of green should not disguise the fact that 90% of the useable land is simply to be covered with houses.'

'Not satisfied at all'

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'I AM ABSOLUTELY APPALLED TO THINK THAT YET AGAIN THE REAL NEEDS OF SIBLE HEDINGHAM ARE BEING IGNORED. WE CERTAINLY NEED SPORTS FACILITIES BUT THAT ON ITS OWN WILL NOT BRING REGENERATION TO THIS VILLAGE. THERE IS STILL A NEED FOR BETTER SHOPS. MORE SCHOOL PLACES. BETTER TRANSPORT. A DENTIST WOULD MEAN CHILDREN WOULDN'T NEED SO MUCH TIME OFF SCHOOL THE SAME COULD BE SAID FOR AN OPTITIAN. AND I STILL BELEIVE WHATEVER THE NHS SAY WITH AN AGING POPULATION AS WELL AS YOUNG FAMILIES THIS 'VILLAGE' NEEDS A MEDICAL CENTRE. THE ROADS ARE IMPOSSIBLE. WE NEED SO MUCH MORE THAN WE ARE BEING OFFERED IN FACT WHAT WE NEED IS REGENERATION NOT JUST ANOTHER HOUSING ESTATE. THIS IS ANOTHER MISSED OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE THE LIFE OF LOCAL PEOPLE.'

'Affordable housing of approx 30% is unacceptable. You only need to look at the 'affordable housing' on the relatively new Summerfields site behind the Co-Op. Ask people who live in the Brook Terrace area about the tenants who occupy here. My own family members were in the process of buying property on this site, but pulled out of the purchase when the plans were unveiled. How happy they are that they did! Why do we need over 200 new houses? The village cannot cope with the numbers in the village as it is. Medical centre plans declined, no new facilities for school or nursery provision, no recreational amenities for the young (sports facilities question 11 an item in question)..... Just how is the village supposed to maintain its already overburdened population with all these new families moving into the area, with no thought of provision for them? And as for the unsightly 'employment hub' facing us on the junction of Bewick Court. What an attractive welcome into the village from the Haverhill direction! If we must have it.....put it out of sight.'

'Space for doctors surgery and allotments would enhance the plan'

'Not satisfied. Although requirement for new medical facility has been withdrawn, how is the existing surgery going to cope with potentially 500 extra patients when you struggle to get an appointment now? where are all the extra primary aged schoolchildren going to go when the current classes are already overflowing? There may be an existing sewerage connection to the site, but is it big enough to cope with 236 houses and numerous work units? Have we got to put up with building related traffic congestion for the next 14 years? Once the development is finished, what will be the effect of all the extra traffic on an already very busy road? What happens if all the work units aren't filled with entrepreneurs that want to employ local people? Are the developers aware of any existing businesses looking to move to the village or is it fingers crossed? On the plus side, the proposals to extend the riverside walk and develop the wildlife reserve are good.'

'Satisfied'

'I am unable to attend the public meetings with regard to the above, however I would like my views heard as a member of Sible Hedinghams community. I strongly oppose this project going ahead. Sible Hedingham will soon lose its pretty village community feel if large housing developments go ahead. I understand there are no plans for a new doctors surgery or primary/secondary schools to accommodate the new families should this go ahead. Our doctors' surgery is already stretched with the amount of people already living here and the surrounding villages. St Peters primary school already has 30plus pupils to a class, any more pupils and children's development will begin to suffer. There is little space for parking at the school let alone extra children that would come from the new site, bringing impacting more traffic be it walking or vehicles. The impact of extra traffic coming out from the Premdor site into what is already an extremely busy road passing through our village is frankly worrying. Something would need to be done to accommodate the flow of traffic. Sible's community and those that use the road to pass through have already been inconvenienced with traffic lights and road works. I hope we are able to use the site for something other than homes as Sible Hedingham will lose its appeal. I trust this will be taken into account for when you report to Braintree District Council. I would like to know



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this will be heard by the people within Braintree District Council.'

'Opportunity to improve health centre and provide allotments has been missed. Employment suggested is not suitable'

'Needs to include more community facilities like allotments and doctors'

'I'd like to know what provisions would be made to the local schools for the additional pupils that would be moving to the area. Living on Swan Street, the traffic is a real worry to me, the road is very busy now without another 236 homes vehicles to accommodate. Our local amenities are not big enough to cater for the additional residents. Rather worrying that the local health trust does not feel it necessary to provide an additional medical centre, it's hard enough to get an appointment at the doctors as it is. Not quite sure how this is going to benefit the village....we are a village apparently!'

'Doctors and allotments needed and re think of employment opportunities'

'I have just moved from an area that had a similar development like this built over the mid 90's (Erith, Kent). There were far too many people crammed into a town that just couldn't support the demand for jobs, transport and facilities. Ten to fifteen years down the road and the area is a really rough place with increased crime and many 'no-go' areas. Everyone needs somewhere to live but too many people in too smaller place I feel causes social problems.'

'I am dissatisfied with the plan as I believe that it will make the village crowded and create traffic problems. I do not believe that Swan street has the facilities to cope with the influx of traffic and pedestrians and that it would change the image of the village and its surrounding countryside for the worst.'

'Add doctors and allotments - re think sports'

'Need to add doctors and allotments'

'Addition of Doctor and allotments needed'

'Missing doctors, play equipment and allotments'

'As all projects it will need serious consideration but the developer should include in the making the plan of a new medical centre'

'Will tests be done for contamination on the site from fires, steam power house, railway, waste liquid lagoons, etc?'

Will an assessment be done for the risk to the public from the unexploded WWII bombs in the marsh area set aside for the riverside walk/nature reserve?'

'This Masterplan is primarily another housing estate which would add to the problems in the village – more traffic exiting onto the A1017 (Swan Street, etc), through Castle Hedingham; lack of parking space; a lack of employment opportunities and stress on the schools. It is also an opportunity missed to create a real village centre. Sible does not have a true centre. Why are so many houses (with a huge population increase) being built without appropriate infrastructure? It will create chaos but, no doubt, improve the development company's bank balance. Most disappointing.'

opportunity to improve health centre and provide allotments has been missed. Employment suggested is not suitable

missing doctors, play equipment and allotments

Lacks a doctors and allotments and a proper employment source

The plan lacks allotments, employment and a doctors

needs real employment opportunities and allotments

lacks allotments and doctors

disappointed no surgery or allotments

I think it is disastrous at best cause parking & traffic problems at worst a slum.

Very dissatisfied. I think it is unimaginative and just dumping all the new housing on our village without the necessary accompanying investment. I would like to see this opportunity taken to (re-)create a proper heart to the village with shops including a proper supermarket, cafe/bar, library, health centre, etc. to provide employment opportunities and local services. I think the problems with have in the village with unsocial behaviour, traffic congestion, no transport, etc. are only going to be made worse with an influx of another up to 1000 people (assume 200 family homes) - must be close to a third again of our existing population.

Generally, i am satisfied with what has so far been proposed. However, this is a unique opportunity for Sible Hedingham, and we must ensure that the development is right 'first time'. Careful consideration needs to be given to ensuring that local facilities can absorb the needs of a circa 20-25% increase in village population. The design of the new buildings needs to be architecturally sympathetic to the village and its environs. The general design needs to be connective and have good links for walking to the main facilities including schools, shops and recreational areas, thus reducing car dependence as far as is practicable. Above all else, the villagers need to embrace this opportunity to improve our village and welcome the growth and prosperity that it can potentially bring. I want to see a thriving pub in the village, not sorry looking boarded up ones, and only more local people will help this happen. Affordable housing is also very important, as we need to have local housing for local people so our younger generation can stay in the village if they wish to. Improvements to public transport is also vital to ensure residents old and new can make more sustainable travel choices.

No doubt other shops and businesses would be attracted by the greater number of people/customers.

I am concerned about likely noise from the process of building houses. I live in Bewick Court and work from home. I also feel that Sible Hedingham is rather too big for a village already. This will move it further in the direction of being like a small town and less like a village.