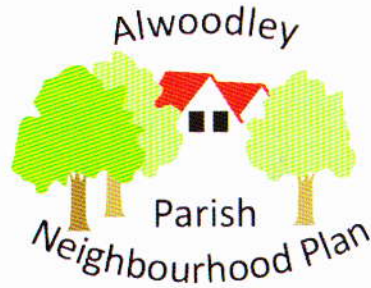


Alwoodley Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan Update



Last year you may remember that along with the Parish Newsletter a questionnaire was circulated asking households for their views on the Parish.

Since then there's been lots happening and we would like to bring you up-to-date on progress on the Neighbourhood Plan.

The feedback from the questionnaires showed that what Parishioners most liked about living in the Parish were the quietness and the nearness to countryside and green spaces. The most commonly perceived problems of living in the Parish were related to the increased traffic, parking and the lack of facilities for young teenagers. Concern was also expressed about the conversion of single houses into blocks of flats and the demolition of bungalows so that two-stored houses could be built.

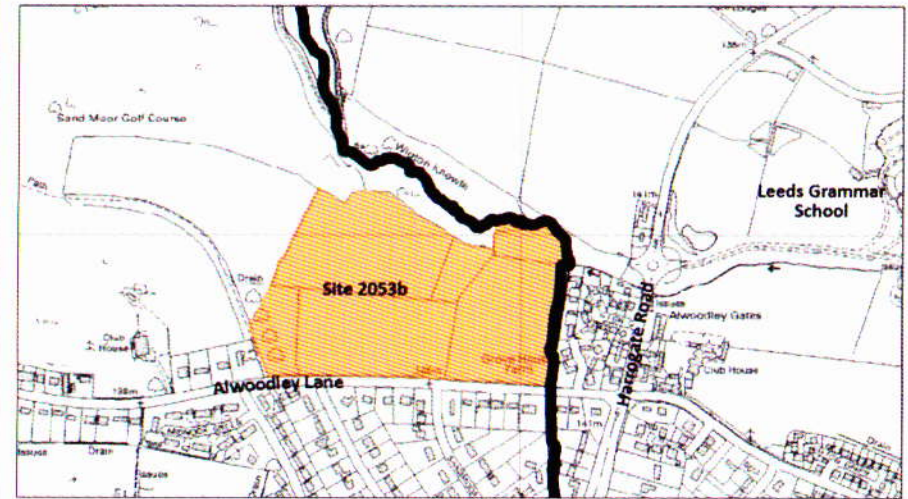
Along with the information collected by the questionnaire, which has helped to form key sections of the Neighbourhood Plan, we have obtained data on the Parish from the national census. An important part of the process of writing the Neighbourhood Plan has been to consult the plans drawn up by Leeds City Council for the development of the city.

Putting all these things together, the Parish Council has devised a set of policies which they feel will help to preserve the character of the Parish, protect the green spaces and prevent the housing stock from being drastically altered.

The plan is now ready in draft form and has been looked at by a Planning Officer at Leeds City Council. An independent planning consultant will check that what is in the plan accords with planning law. Any recommended changes will be made and the revised plan will then be made available for everyone in the Parish to read as part of the consultation process. It is anticipated that this will be sometime in the middle of 2015.

Following the publication of the plan an independent assessor will review it and, if it passes this inspection, a referendum will be held to approve the plan.

One of the important facts that we have had to keep in mind when drafting the plan is that it must comply with the Leeds Core Strategy. This has meant that we have had to accept that a small part of the Parish – identified as 2053b and shown in the map below – has been included as a possible development site. The policies devised by the Parish Council seek to minimise the disruption to our Parish if this should ever go ahead.



The other important aspect of the Plan is that it can only relate to planning issues and some of the concerns raised by Parishioners do not fall within the scope of planning. However it is felt to be important to note these issues and they have been included in a supplementary section of the final document.

The *Local Planning Act* has allowed us the opportunity to have a significant contribution to help shape development within Alwoodley.

The plan goes much wider than just **housing & development** in the Parish. It takes into consideration such things as:

Recreation The Local Economy The Community The Environment