



Darnhall Neighbourhood Plan

QUESTIONNAIRE



Nov-Dec 2017



DARNHALL NEIGHBOURHOOD

PLAN – CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

A. INFORMATION ABOUT YOU

To be able to check on how representative this survey is of the community we would be grateful if you could provide information about your age.

How old are you? Please circle the relevant grouping.

Under 18 18-35 36-55 56-75 over 75

Are you a resident of Darnhall? YES NO

If NO do you have land and/or business interests in Darnhall Parish?

YES NO

... and which of these descriptions best fits your situation?

EMPLOYEE IN THE PARISH	NEARBY RESIDENT	VISITOR	OTHER
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B. When filling in this questionnaire you will see phrases in many of the sections asking you how you feel about various issues, as follows:

- very important
- quite important
- neutral – Neither Important or Unimportant to me
- not very important
- unimportant
- don't know

Please circle the one that seems to represent your view.

As you go through the questionnaire please add any further comments you feel will help us.



DRAFT VISION

The Parish of Darnhall will retain the local character of the area as being countryside maintained through active farming. Its community facilities and open spaces will continue to benefit people both within the Parish and neighbouring areas. The environment and wildlife will be conserved and Darnhall will be a place where local people can safely live, work, play and enjoy a high quality of life.

AIMS

- 1) To enhance and protect the countryside and natural environment of Darnhall Parish.
- 2) To encourage rural development, enterprise and tourism that takes advantage of the characteristics of Darnhall Parish.
- 3) To conserve and enhance community assets and make them more accessible.
- 4) To ensure safe access for non-vehicle users to all parts of the Parish.
- 5) To ensure that previously developed site opportunities are investigated to satisfy residential, commercial and agricultural development.

How important is this vision to you?

VERY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	UNIMPORTANT	DON'T KNOW
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Any additional comments ...



We would like you to answer questions concerning the future of Darnhall.

ONE: Protecting the Environment

1. All new development should reflect the character of the Parish, particularly building scale, traditional building materials, design and density. How important is this to you?

VERY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	UNIMPORTANT	DON'T KNOW
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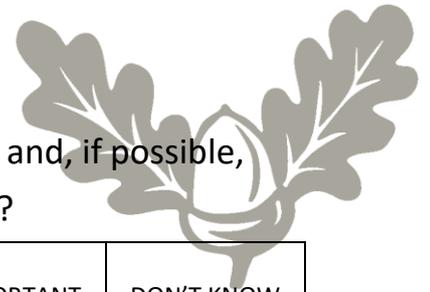
What features of local building design do you most value if any?

2. New development should safeguard existing trees, hedgerows and walls and should incorporate new tree and hedgerow planting.

Is this of importance to you?

VERY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	UNIMPORTANT	DON'T KNOW
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Your comments ...



3. Public footpaths and bridleways should be maintained and, if possible, improved and extended. How important is this to you?

VERY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	UNIMPORTANT	DON'T KNOW
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Which footpaths do you most value and why?

4. New development should seek to incorporate footpaths, bridleways and cycle ways to promote sustainability (i.e., that they contribute to social well-being and the local economy). How important is this to you?

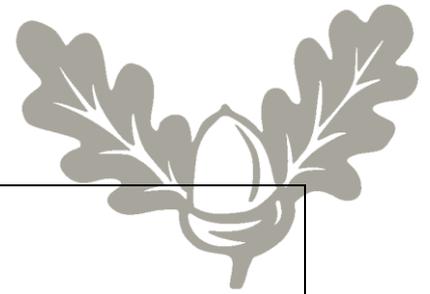
VERY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	UNIMPORTANT	DON'T KNOW
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Your comments ...

5. Development proposals that would have a significant and / or harmful visual impact on the countryside within the Parish should be discouraged.

How important is this to you?

VERY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	UNIMPORTANT	DON'T KNOW
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Additional comments ...

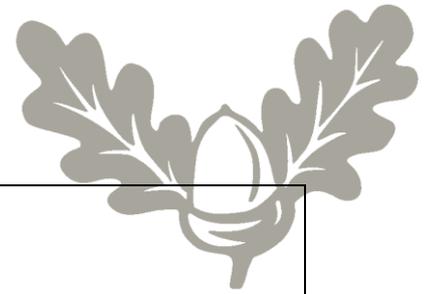
6. Proposals to maintain and enhance woodlands and create wildlife corridors should be supported. How important is this to you?

VERY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	UNIMPORTANT	DON'T KNOW
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Additional comments ...

7. Dark night time skies are to be preferred over street lights and other outdoor lighting to minimise light pollution and its adverse effects on wildlife. Is this of importance to you?

VERY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	UNIMPORTANT	DON'T KNOW
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Additional comments ...

TWO: Protecting community assets.

Darnhall is fortunate in having part of the Winsford Flash, many woodlands of environmental importance and a network of bridleways and footpaths. There are also some listed buildings and heritage bridges. This legacy should be enjoyed and preserved. The Village Hall, Weaver Methodist Chapel and the Sailing Club are also assets to the community.

Winsford Neighbourhood Plan sets out a future ambition for public access and a cycleway around the Flashes, which could be agreed subject to commitments from the Winsford Town Council towards a management plan to protect farming activities and the environment.

Please look at the list of community assets in the appendix and list the 3 that are of the most value to you.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____



Are there others that you would like to see improved? Please add any you think we have missed.

THREE: Traffic and Safety

Development should have regard to road safety as set out in STRAT 10 of the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan. (This can be viewed in Winsford library or on the Cheshire West and Chester Planning Website)

1. The impact of vehicular traffic on the road should be minimised where possible and should not reduce safety for pedestrians and cyclists. How important is this to you?

VERY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	UNIMPORTANT	DON'T KNOW
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How would you like to see this achieved?



FOUR. Residential and Commercial Development

CWAC has a Local Plan that classifies Darnhall as countryside. The guidance on development in these locations is set out in STRAT 9 of the Plan. This states the following:

“Within the countryside the following types of development will be permitted:

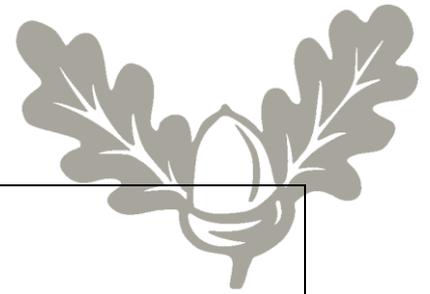
- *Development that has an operational need for a countryside location such as for agricultural or forestry operations*
- *Replacement buildings*
- *Small scale and low impact/ farm diversification schemes appropriate to the site, location and setting of the area*
- *The reuse of existing rural buildings, particularly for economic purposes, where buildings are of permanent construction and can be reused without major reconstruction*
- *The expansion of existing buildings to facilitate the growth of established businesses proportionate to the scale of the site and its setting”*

This means that there will only be development that requires a rural location, in accordance with the Local Plan. Brownfield* sites will be developed only if the proposed development is sustainable (that it contributes to social well-being and the local economy) and does not cause harm to the wider landscape and setting of Darnhall.

* **Brownfield** land is a term used in urban **planning** to describe any previously developed land that is not currently in use

1. Barn conversions and any rebuilt or extended property should seek to retain or enhance the existing character of the original building. How important is this to you?

VERY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	UNIMPORTANT	DON'T KNOW
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Any additional comments ...

2. Brownfield sites within the Parish should be developed in a way that is sensitive to their rural surroundings. How important is this to you?

VERY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	UNIMPORTANT	DON'T KNOW
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Could you tell us what features of the local character of buildings you would like to see?

Your comments ...

3. Development should not be permitted if harm might be caused to the safety, peace and wellbeing of Darnhall residents. Do you have any views on this?

Your comments ...



4. Development, whether commercial or housing should not result in the loss of important open vistas. How important is this to you?

VERY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	UNIMPORTANT	DON'T KNOW
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Are there any views in Darnhall that you particularly value?

Your comments ...

5. How important is it to you to maintain open countryside on the boundary between Winsford and the parish of Darnhall? (Please see appendix for map of Darnhall showing the parish boundary)

VERY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	UNIMPORTANT	DON'T KNOW
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Additional comments ...

The previous consultation identified that active farming is viewed as a predominant feature of Darnhall Parish.

6. Do you have concerns about planning issues that may impact on the future of active farming?



7. What kind of low impact farm diversification schemes would benefit the economy of the Parish and local economy?

8. How could the assets of the Darnhall Parish be improved to encourage enterprise and tourism?

FIVE: Housing Needs in the Parish.

Any residential development in the parish will be in accordance with STRAT 9 of the CWAC Local Plan[Pg41]. As described in section **Four** above. If any development takes place within those constraints, please tell us what kind of property you think would be of most benefit to the parish.

Your comments ...

Thank you for completing the questionnaire. Please return to:-

Darnhall Neighbourhood Plan, c/o Weaver Dairy House Farm, Stocks Hill, Winsford, CW7 4EE