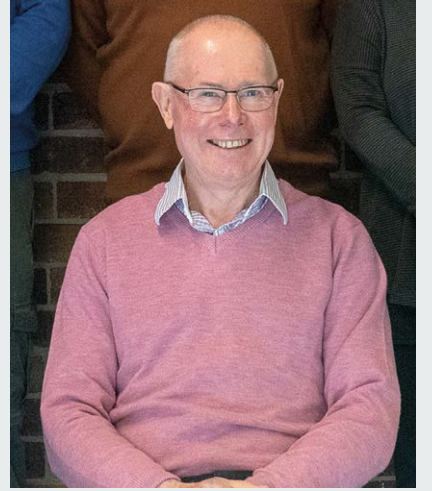


HIGHER KINNERTON

VILLAGE PLAN 2018 - 2030





FOREWORD

In early 2018, Higher Kinnerton Community Council was encouraged to consider developing a Village Plan by Flintshire County Council's planning officers. The Village Plan would be intended to be used to inform and influence the Flintshire Local Development Plan currently under development. The plan would also enable current and future Community Council members and the community to provide the facilities and infrastructure Higher Kinnerton residents indicated they desire.

From the initial open meeting and setting up of a steering group, to the survey and meetings that have subsequently taken place, residents have shown an ongoing desire to be involved. Many of them have come forward and offered help and suggestions to deliver this plan.

Over the coming years we face many challenges in the form of County Councils cutting back on traditional services to local communities, and changes to the role Town and Community Councils will be expected to perform. Coupled with all this is a growing village population as Higher Kinnerton is seen as a desirable place to live. We believe this plan will put us in a strong position to help meet future challenges.

The Community Council would like to congratulate members of the steering group (made up of village residents and members of the Community Council) and other members of the community who have supported the process of this plan. The hard work and dedication they have shown in delivering the plan is something the community can rightly be proud of.

We are fortunate enough to live in a beautiful rural village where people care about their community and everyone who lives here. We also know that for this to continue, the community must be ready to adapt and change.

Gareth Evans
Chair of Higher Kinnerton Community Council

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1.0 AN INTRODUCTION TO HIGHER KINNERTON

Set in beautiful countryside at the foot of the Welsh mountains, Higher Kinnerton is in a truly rural setting. Looking east across the green fields you can see the spires of the Roman city of Chester. To the south and west are the Welsh mountains and the gateway to the Clwydian range.

In addition to its rural setting, Higher Kinnerton is very much connected to North Wales and the North West of England. You can be in Snowdonia or the heart of Manchester within an hour. The Welsh market towns of Wrexham and Mold are only six miles away and historic Chester is just a fifteen minute drive or bus ride from the village centre.

Higher Kinnerton still retains its traditional farming background with both dairy and agricultural farms feeding into the local rural economy. Residents within the village centre predominantly commute to work, either to local employers such as Airbus or further afield towards Liverpool, Manchester and beyond.

Higher Kinnerton has won “Flintshire Best Kept Community” award on several occasions, most recently in 2017.

The history of Higher Kinnerton goes back to pagan times with evidence of Celtic settlements being found. As with many rural communities, the industrial revolution brought many changes, not least the railway and Kinnerton’s own station. The railway

was dismantled in the 1960s but still provides a focal point as a popular footpath and public space. Over the following forty years the village grew steadily with high quality housing and infrastructure being constructed. The village school, which had been opened in 1880, moved to a new site in the 1970s to accommodate the growing number of children.

Higher Kinnerton is a popular place to live. The village population is made up of all age groups, faiths and backgrounds. English is the main language and Welsh is spoken informally as well as being taught in the school. The village has a centrally located Village Hall which is used and supported by many community groups for both young and old. Our village Scout Headquarters is home to the Cubs, Scouts, Brownies and Guides groups. The village is very much inclusive and this is supported by community events such as the bi-annual village day and scarecrow competition.

The growth of Higher Kinnerton as a community and village will continue. New infrastructure such as superfast broadband has brought entrepreneurial opportunities for local businesses. Our old Victorian school house is now home to a digital design studio. Sustainable growth is very much the village goal, providing the future community with the right housing, education and community activities to ensure long term health and well-being.



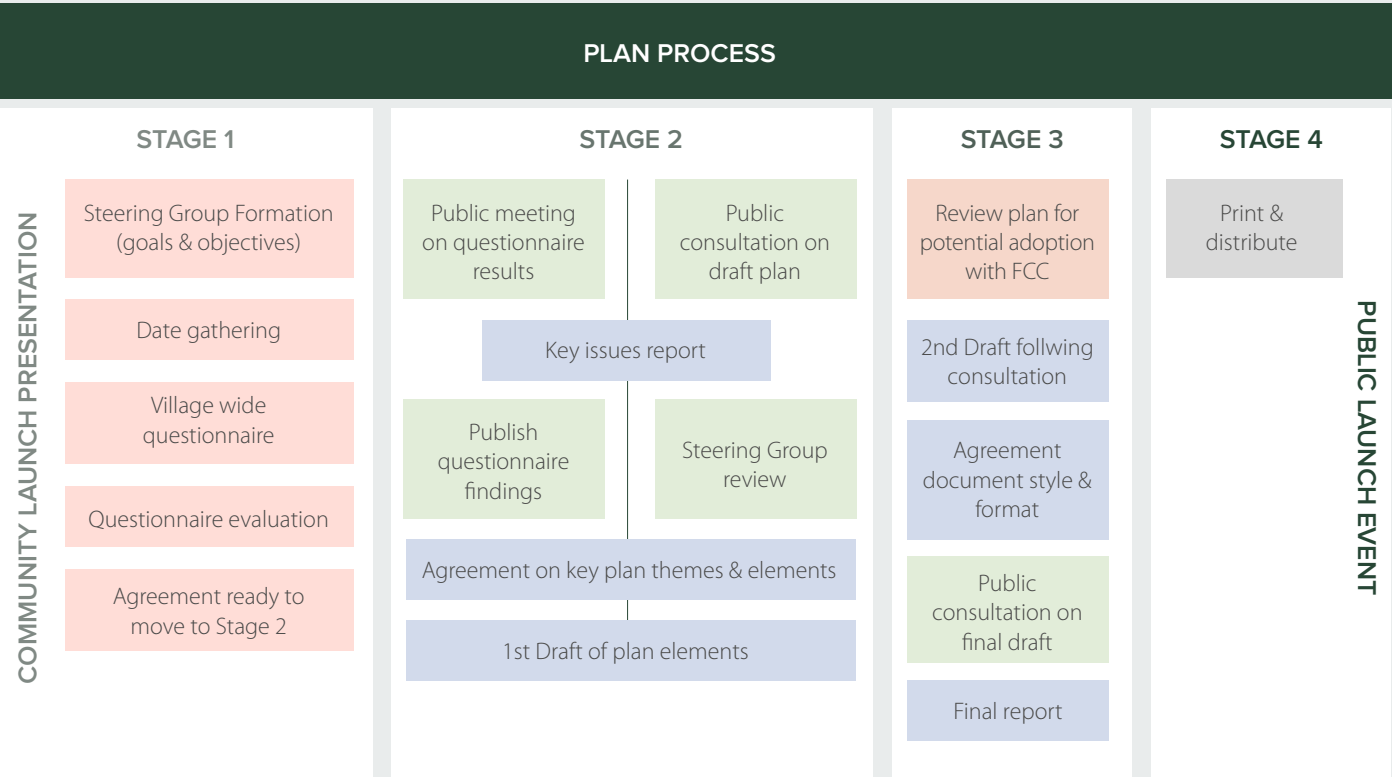
2.0 AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HIGHER KINNERTON VILLAGE PLAN

This document is the Higher Kinnerton Village Plan, produced by its residents and Community Council. The plan sets out the priorities for the future of the village up to 2030, organised around four main themes.

A key element of the plan was to engage with the community at all stages. This has been achieved by consulting at open meetings, a village-wide survey and continuous updates through our social media platform and monthly newsletter.

WHY HAVE A VILLAGE PLAN?

- The Welsh Government is encouraging all communities, where practicable, to produce a community plan to help local planners and developers in the development of their communities.
 - It will help provide a framework around which the Community Council can make decisions about the future of Higher Kinnerton in response to residents' interests.
- It will help to provide evidence and can be used as a focus for influencing Flintshire County Council's (FCC) Local Development Plan (LDP) and service providers to our community.
 - It will help to prioritise the actions taken by the Community Council regarding specific projects in Higher Kinnerton for the good of the community as a whole.



3.0 ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

The Village Plan sets out a vision for the future of Higher Kinnerton and its future development.

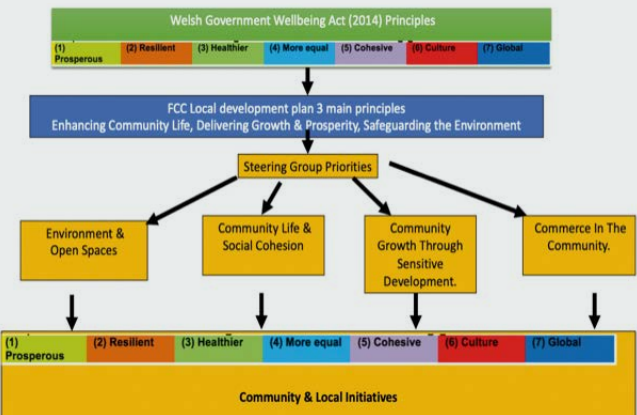
FCC, as the Local Planning Authority, is under a statutory obligation to identify new sites for housing and other forms of development to meet local needs. This involves the identification of land for new development which meets the guidance set out by the Welsh Government in Flintshire's Local Development Plan (LDP).

During the early stages of the LDP preparation, FCC consulted widely on the development of the plan and Higher Kinnerton Community Councillors were involved with the process from the start. Potential candidate sites identified in Higher Kinnerton by FCC were commented on by the Community Council and fed back to FCC as part of the County Council's "call for candidate sites" process. As part of the process, Warren Hall was identified as the council's "strategic site for mixed use allocation". Although no plan has so far been submitted by the Welsh Government on the exact details for this site, the LDP indicates that the site is to be used for mixed leisure, light industry and up to 300 dwellings. This development could potentially have considerable impact on the rural aspect of Higher Kinnerton and the infrastructure and amenities of the village.

Through consultation with village residents, the steering group identified the following themes to be developed for the plan:

- Protecting our environment and open spaces
- Promoting community life and social cohesion
- Community growth through sensitive development
- Supporting commerce in the community

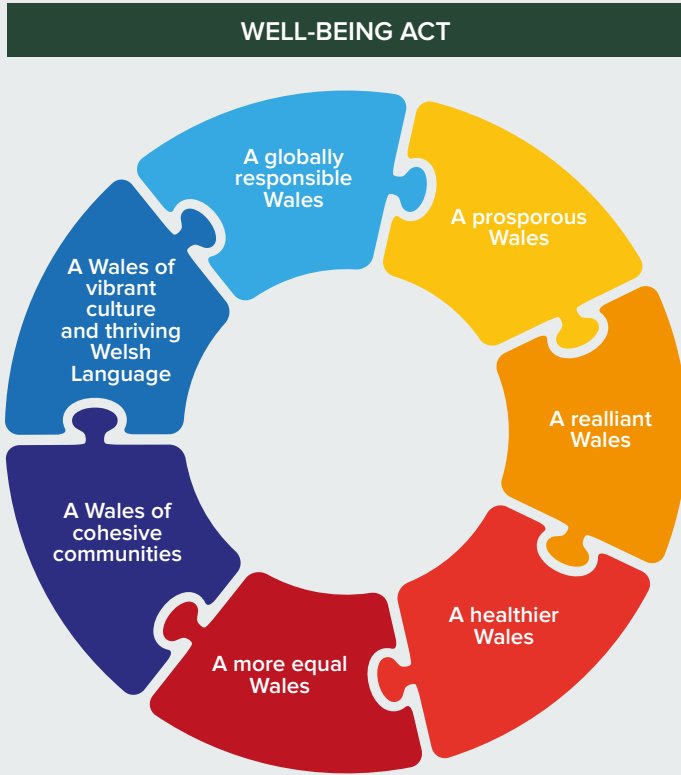
The Higher Kinnerton Village Plan takes each of these themes in turn, setting out the background and then, based on what we were told by residents in the survey, proposing a set of key objectives which can be delivered.



4.0 CONSULTATION AND FORMATION OF THE VISION

Three consultation events were held in the Higher Kinnerton Village Hall to give residents the opportunity to hear and give their views on the LDP and the development of the Village Plan. The first meeting was held on January 19th 2018 where a presentation was given to over 100 residents on the background to the LDP, the reasons behind the production of a village plan and the formation of a steering group.

The newly formed steering group met on a regular basis to review and discuss Welsh Government and Flintshire County Council national and local documents including local census data to help support the themes the plan should take. Key amongst those documents was the Welsh Government’s “Wellbeing of Future Generations Act 2014” and Flintshire County Council’s “Well Being Plan 2018”. Both of these documents helped in forming the main principles to be followed in the plan process.

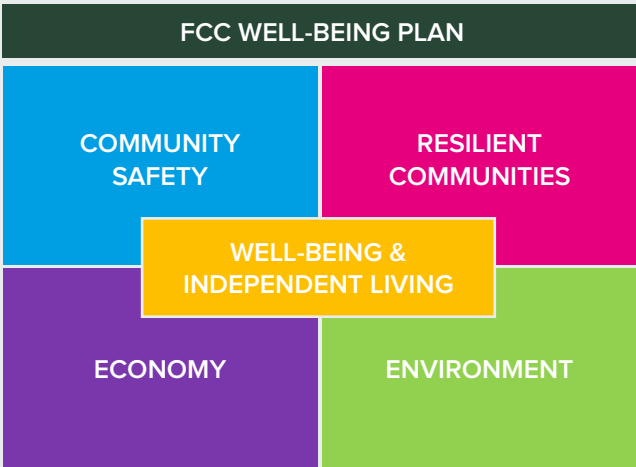


In June 2018, the steering group appointed DATAWOJ as its consultant to carry out a village-wide survey to gather opinions of residents on the four main principles of the plan. The survey ran between June 22nd & July 7th. At our Village Day on June 23rd the steering group hosted a stand to encourage residents to take part in the survey. At the end of the process, 291 residents took part, which represented a 21% response rate of eligible residents. 57 questions were answered and 954 lines of comments were submitted and analysed.

Two further open events were held on the 27th & 28th July to present the survey results to residents and to allow for further comments and clarification on certain topics.

Taking all this on board, the steering group then moved on to forming a vision and identifying which topics and themes could be incorporated into the draft plan.

In September 2018 a draft submission was presented to the Higher Kinnerton Community Council for feedback and to gain support for the plan themes. Following unanimous support from the Community Council the steering group moved on to final draft and presentation to residents before the official presentation of the plan to Flintshire County Council.



4.1 OUR VISION

The whole process highlighted how engaged and passionate residents feel about our community. There is clearly recognition of what good neighbourliness means to the community, but also recognition that for the village to continue to be a great place to live, more needs to be done to provide the services and amenities a growing community requires.

We believe that our vision captures the views of the community and can be developed through the four themes of the plan. These came about through a meeting with residents who were asked to rate the village using a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis. Through this process, the four themes of the plan became evident.



THE VISION FOR HIGHER KINNERTON

“To continue to be a prosperous, caring community preserving the quiet village feel within an attractive and safe rural setting.

To meet the aspirations of all residents irrespective of age in a thriving community, embracing change and development while protecting and enhancing the environment to improve the wellbeing of residents.”

5.0 HIGHER KINNERTON VILLAGE PLAN THEMES AND OBJECTIVES

5.1 PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND OPEN SPACES

INTRODUCTION

Residents place considerable value on the fact that the village is surrounded by green areas and there were many positive comments expressed by residents to that effect. They referred to the fact that they moved to the village to 'bring our family up in the countryside' and that 'the green spaces' were a significant reason for wanting to reside in Higher Kinnerton.

The results from the survey, along with the analysis work conducted before and after the survey, did indicate real concerns over the level of development that is both taking place currently in the area and that may happen over the life of the LDP.

WHAT RESIDENTS TOLD US DURING THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

The village's 'Rural' aspect was the third most popular reason for people wanting to live in the village. Almost half of respondents indicated they valued the attractive and rural approach to the village: 81% said it was something they regarded as very important or important.

"The entrance to the village is important. Remember it is a village."

There is a clear wish for the countryside surrounding the village to be protected from encroachment by development. In fact, protection of and limiting the loss of the countryside surrounding the village is a priority. This is something over 90% of respondents felt was very important or important.

Concerns expressed in the survey also related to the impact the loss of green space is having on wildlife. These concerns are

backed up by research such as the WWF Cymru's Living Planet Report 2018 and the National Trust's 2016 State of Nature Report. They reveal that more than half of the UK's native species are in decline, and 1 in 14 wildlife species in Wales is at risk of disappearing completely. These issues were reflected in the survey with 82% in favour of encouraging and preserving wildlife, ponds, hedgerows and trees. Biodiversity is also a priority for residents - over 90% of respondents wish to create wildlife areas or wildlife corridors.

"Growth over the years has damaged community spirit and involvement."

With all the links to community life and the impact on wellbeing that green space is evidenced as having, these need to be highlighted. The village is fortunate in having a stable community; however, residents considering moving from the village in the next five years cited development and expansion as a reason for their decision.

"Over development would change the village into another dysfunctional mass of commuter housing with no cohesion, no centre, no community spirit and no heart."

Higher Kinnerton is also an active community and many residents enjoy cycling (62%) and walking (98%) in and around the village. However, many survey respondents were dissatisfied with the provision of good quality footpaths, public rights of ways and cycle path provision. In fact, over 60% of respondents felt that cycle path provision was either poor or unsatisfactory. When you consider both Welsh Government and Flintshire County Council promote a healthier and more active lifestyle, these results are disappointing.

KEY OBJECTIVES

Extend the Greenbelt proposed in the Deposit LDP to give a clear defined green corridor between the village and Warren Hall.

ACTIONS TO INCLUDE

- The Deposit LDP has designated the former candidate sites HK10 and HK13 as Greenbelt. We would encourage the authority to extend this to also include the former candidate site HK03 and the land to the south & east of the property known as The Mount, Lesters Lane as Greenbelt. The community wish to protect the rural setting of the village which has already been compromised by the Kinnerton Meadows development which was granted permission on appeal. By extending of the proposed Greenbelt as we suggest, this would ensure that both the existing village and the new development at Warren Hall, whilst forming part of the same community, maintain their own identities and rural settings which residents indicated that they value so much through our Village Survey. The extension would also protect the two Grade II Listed buildings on the edges of HK03 as well as the footpath into the village which would provide an important rural link between the existing and new part of the community.
- The proposed Warren Hall outline plan shows many possible footpaths and cycleways running through the development. As walking was identified as being hugely important to Higher Kinnerton residents, we would look to the planning process to enable the community to help shape plans for the existing footpaths in Higher Kinnerton and new footpaths within Warren Hall to be connected. Our aim being to link both parts of the community with a new integrated walking and cycle network.
- Work with the community and external agencies to develop community trails around the village perimeter by creating 'walkable' wildlife corridors along the old railway line embankment running between Bennett's Lane and Main Road. Work with government agencies and local land owners to gain access to unused and currently unavailable parts of the old railway line to create new public rights of way wherever possible. Plant more trees and hedgerows along these routes to help improve air quality and encourage more wildlife to occupy the area.

b) Preservation and enhancing green open spaces within Higher Kinnerton.

ACTIONS TO INCLUDE

- Preserve, protect and act to increase wildlife, ponds, hedgerows and trees within the village. This should include increased levels of mature tree planting to mitigate the visual impact of house-building and loss of fields. Other opportunities include the erection of nesting boxes and bat boxes, creation of a 'mini-park' to encourage wildlife and creating a village wildlife pond (subject to safety issues).
- Work with All Saints Church to gain access to the additional land that has been granted to them in trust. Develop the area not only as an additional burial ground but also for creation of a community wildlife garden.
- Promote the extension of our allotment provision and include a community compost scheme to encourage residents to be more aware of the waste we create.



5.0 HIGHER KINNERTON VILLAGE PLAN THEMES AND OBJECTIVES

5.2 PROMOTING COMMUNITY LIFE AND SOCIAL COHESION

INTRODUCTION

The Village Plan survey demonstrated the value residents place on community spirit, friendliness of its residents, the importance of village volunteers and the joy of living in a thriving rural community. The survey also highlighted the limitations there are for working residents to get involved in activities and the availability of activities for younger members of the community. The continuing importance of our shop, public houses, village hall and scout headquarters was regularly highlighted and their usage needs to be encouraged.

Current village volunteers and the Community Council would be unable to achieve all the aspirations residents have. Therefore more residents and village organisations will need to come forward to help achieve the kind of community residents indicate they aspire to. If future development occurs, then infrastructure monies available to the community should be earmarked for investment in the maintenance and improvement of our community buildings as well as improving the transport infrastructure.

WHAT RESIDENTS TOLD US DURING THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

When asked in the survey what brought people to live in Higher Kinnerton, family ties were amongst the most popular reasons, closely followed by village feel, its friendliness and its rural setting. The safe environment and convenience for commuting were also cited.

“Little did I know it was the best decision of my life then, and still is.”

The various communication methods used in the village were much appreciated by residents. All residents receive a monthly village newsletter, and the village Facebook page (with over 1,000 members) and award-winning website are increasingly popular methods of communication.

Village facilities received a mixed response from residents with only the village hall and village shop receiving over 50%

satisfaction rates. Residents were either choosing not to use the facilities or felt they did not offer the facilities people aspired to.

“Whilst we value having a shop and village hall, both could do with some refurbishment.”

“I think it is disappointing that not all age groups in the village have access to activities here in the village.”

However, village residents do value the community events that take place within the village. 70% of respondents have attended the bi-annual village day event and would like to see this become an annual event. Church events were also very well supported (40%).

A large number of survey respondents (60%) said they would be willing to join or support the formation of a village volunteer group to take on tasks that enhance and benefit the community. A small group has already undertaken maintenance work on the willow arch in one of our play areas.

Two of the more significant concerns for the community were the loss of a Post Office with 89% of respondents wanting to see a full-time service being re-established and the demise of our current bus service provision. Over 80% of residents use a car or van to travel to work and cite frequency (45.6%) and convenience (70%) as reasons for not using public transport. Aligned to this is the fact that our younger residents are unable to travel easily for work or leisure opportunities and our older residents who don't drive find it difficult getting to shopping and medical facilities outside the village.

Parking problems are also a current issue for residents, particularly around the village school at the start of the day and at home time. Lack of car parking provision at residents' properties is a growing concern with 80% of homes in the village now having access to 2 or more vehicles.

“I think that it is really important to maintain the shape to the village around the centre - this can help to ensure that facilities in the centre are used and it is a great way to see and meet people in the village.”

KEY OBJECTIVES

a) Higher Kinnerton Community Council has adopted the aims and ambitions set-out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act, Flintshire County Council's "A Wales of Cohesive Communities" and a "Healthier Wales". However, there is concern that with a major development of 300 new homes within the boundary of Higher Kinnerton, this presents a serious challenge to maintaining social cohesion for the expanded community. Going forward, plans need to be developed for how Warren Hall can be integrated in a way that promotes cohesion and mitigates the potential for any negative impacts of such a large single development.

ACTIONS TO INCLUDE

- Any proposed leisure facilities for Warren Hall should be developed with the benefit of the existing village and the new development in mind. For example, a sports field within Warren Hall could be provided for the use of all, thus encouraging cohesion between Higher Kinnerton and the new residents of Warren Hall.
- Higher Kinnerton currently benefits from an active scouting group and well used village hall with a newly installed cinema facility. Both buildings will need considerable investment in the future to ensure they can support safe and more regular use and meet growing environmental and regulatory requirements. Financial support from the Warren Hall development should be directed to these community buildings that will benefit the expanded community.
- Higher Kinnerton is currently provided with a pilot community transport service between the village and Broughton Park. This service should be developed to include Warren Hall, connecting both areas of the enlarged community to promote more sustainable transport and reduce the reliance on private cars.
- Expansion of our newly formed group of volunteers who are able to assist the Community Council in taking on tasks to help improve the look of our village, and also undertake works that traditionally have been provided by the County Council. This group will look to recruit new members from Warren Hall and will continue to work on projects to maintain and improve wildlife areas and green open spaces within the expanded community.
- Village residents to get involved with community activities provided by the Community Council and a programme of annual events including the popular village day.

- The formation of a youth council whose representatives can inform the Community Council of the wishes of younger village residents to make this a community where their needs are recognised and catered for.
- Continue the development of the area around Bennett's Lane corner to become the village centre where residents can shop, sit and socialise by developing a village area that all the community can enjoy.

b) Help our Village Community Building committees respond to the ambitions and wishes of residents.

ACTIONS TO INCLUDE

- The Community Council would help in the formation of a sub group including representatives of all relevant bodies to develop a plan for the future use and possible development of both buildings so that they are future proofed and fit for purpose over the life of the LDP and beyond.
- Reinstate some of the traditional activities that were highlighted in the survey and assist our community buildings introduce new activities for all age groups.

c) Social isolation for both young and older residents has been highlighted as a concern.

ACTIONS TO INCLUDE

- Community transport needs to play a considerable role in this area by providing a service that allows all residents, but particularly our younger and older residents to access work opportunities and leisure facilities at Warren Hall, to reduce social isolation.
- Work with both our public houses on how they could engage together with the community to provide, for example, lunchtime clubs, coffee mornings and parents' groups.



5.0 HIGHER KINNERTON VILLAGE PLAN THEMES AND OBJECTIVES

5.3 COMMUNITY GROWTH THROUGH SENSITIVE DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

Higher Kinnerton is a desirable place to live and as a result its properties are sought-after and house prices are high, relative to Flintshire generally. The “village feel” and attractive rural setting are both important appealing features. So too are its proximity to good transport links to Chester and other local employment centres and the good reputation of the village school, Ysgol Derwen. The village’s desirability has unsurprisingly attracted developers. Recent notable developments have been “Babylon Fields” (approx. 30 houses) which commenced in 2012 and “Kinnerton Meadows” which is currently ongoing and will total 56 new homes. In addition, it is envisaged that the nearby Warren Hall mixed-use development will include a significant residential element of perhaps 300 houses.

Flintshire County Council has a duty to ensure local housing needs are met through the planning process. The new Flintshire Local Development Plan (LDP) will identify sites throughout the County which are suitable for new housing, in order to ensure a sufficient supply of land for the period of the plan (2015-2030). Several potential candidate sites in and around Higher Kinnerton have been put forward by landowners for FCC to consider as part of the LDP process. Some of these have subsequently been identified as being potentially suitable for residential development, and as a result could be designated as such within the adopted LDP.

The Community Council and the village community itself recognise the need for new housing in the county and accept that Higher Kinnerton may accommodate some of this growth over the life of the LDP. However, the community feels that development should not come at the cost of a continuing decline in local infrastructure (road, transport, access to health provision, education) and local village amenities (post office, shops, pubs). These vital services have not kept pace with the growth of the community. The recent design of residential developments has also contributed to the growth and reliance of residents’ use of their cars as the main means of transport and has added to parking problems within the village. This problem has been recognised nationally in a recent project document (Transport for New Homes 2018).

The community would welcome the opportunity to influence positively the type and form of new development going forward, including Warren Hall, maximising the benefits of development while mitigating any negative impacts on the existing community as far as possible.

Finally, if the Warren Hall development is included in the LDP, then we believe that the case for further development within the current village boundary is substantially weakened and should not be supported.



WHAT RESIDENTS TOLD US DURING THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 97.8% of respondents would like to be consulted on future developments affecting the village.
- In terms of housing type, residents believe that the village needs a mix of housing to include starter homes and bungalows as well as family houses to ensure there is housing available to suit people at all stages of life.
- Approximately 25% of respondents said they anticipated moving out of the village in the next 5 years. Reasons relevant to this section included a “change of house type” (31%) and “too much housing growth” (20%).
- There was a range of views with regards to how any potential development monies should be allocated within the community, but the overwhelming view was that such monies should be invested for the benefit of the community as a whole and used to support the improvement of existing community assets.
- Other concerns included loss of village identity, lack of facilities, questions over the style of development, lack of car parking provision on new developments and investment required in the school.

“I would support the building of more houses in the hope this would make better public transport viable and also to encourage more facilities”.

“If the community council could tackle the parking problem that would be amazing. It’s one subject that causes a lot of problems and has been highlighted many times on the FB group. But so far nothing has been done to combat this growing issue”.

“No point building more houses, even if affordable, if the village doesn’t have any amenities. We all have to get in our cars to go elsewhere. It’s a lovely village in a great location but wish there was more here for adults and older kids”.



KEY OBJECTIVES

a) The residential element of the Warren Hall development should be delivered in such a way that its future residents benefit from a high quality built environment, set within this beautiful rural area. They should also not feel isolated from the existing Higher Kinnerton community, of which they will become an important new part.

ACTIONS TO INCLUDE

- With an aging population nationally and locally, serious consideration needs to be given on how housing should be provided for this section of our community, as well as the provision of affordable housing to encourage younger people to settle in Higher Kinnerton and Warren Hall. This to ensure that we have a balanced mix of accommodation types available to provide for the newly enlarged community.
- Provide a well thought out network of footpaths and cycleways that not only connect to Flintshire County Council's active travel routes but also provide connectivity to the existing village.
- Residential planning should focus on the need to value the environment with more green spaces, footpaths and cycleways as recommended by the Transport for New Homes Study, and provide facilities for a growing an environmentally friendly transport system.
- Development needs to reflect the desire to move to a low carbon society by using green technology in housing design with provision of suitable charging points for the anticipated move to electric vehicles.
- When considering possible provision of super-fast broadband, include in the planning process how this important facility could be extended to the existing village now or in the future.
- A full assessment needs to be carried out on the road infrastructure surrounding Warren Hall, particularly Lesters Lane. This road would become a main route for people travelling from the A55 into Warren Hall for work, leisure and returning home. The community considers the road unsuitable for its current level of use, therefore the inevitable increase in traffic volumes generated by Warren Hall will exasperate the problems residents and road users are currently experiencing. s.106 monies should be secured to provide a safer road format to cope with the predicted increased use.
- Consideration also needs to be given to Main Road into Higher Kinnerton for the safety of parents and children who may attend Ysgol Derwen Primary School. Parking is already a serious problem in mornings and afternoon, and every effort needs to be made to (a) provide improved parking facilities at the school or (b) eliminate the need to travel by car by providing either a community school shuttle bus or (c) accessible, suitable footpaths connecting the school to Warren Hall.



5.0 HIGHER KINNERTON VILLAGE PLAN THEMES AND OBJECTIVES

5.4 COMMERCE IN THE COMMUNITY

INTRODUCTION

While there are few actual commercial business premises in the village, a key part of village life are our village pubs and our village shop. It is important that the community continues to support these businesses to help them remain viable in the future.

Part of Flintshire's Health, Community, Wellbeing and Cohesion document states "The role of the LDP or the key objectives will enable all local residents the opportunity to have access to quality housing, services, shops and leisure, recreational and sports facilities". We have seen over many years the decline of local services, not just in this community but other similar villages, and the loss of our Post Office is keenly felt.

Through the survey, village residents expressed a desire to have more commercial businesses such as a café, hairdressers and other similar businesses within the community. As mentioned in previous sections, we have limited community space and facilities and again the plan would encourage our two main community organisations to work together to explore any commercial opportunity that could benefit the organisations and the community.

WHAT RESIDENTS TOLD US DURING THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

Residents are keen that the village retains many of the features that make Higher Kinnerton a great place to live, in particular placing value on the village shop and the local pubs. The loss of our post office creates an unnecessary problem for those in the community who are unable to travel freely out of the village or those who want the convenience of a traditional post office for basic services.

Many people agreed that as we have limited space for new commercial premises, more could be done with the village hall due to its central location by offering the facility where a commercial business could operate. The idea of a community café, hairdressers and other ideas should also be investigated.

The Community Council is supportive of new initiatives that would give businesses the opportunity to set up and grow in the village. They are also keen to see the temporary outreach Post Office revert back to a permanent facility.

"This village is commercially under exploited. The Village Hall/Bennett's Lane area should be redeveloped to include new facilities, including a shop, post office, cafe and options for pop-ups".

"I would like to open a local small hair salon / barbers, I think it is needed too"

"Need a good village shop. Would be nice to have a coffee shop or café".



KEY OBJECTIVES

Higher Kinnerton has a strong sense of community and as stated in our vision, we wish to continue to be a prosperous and caring community. The following sets out the key projects identified to deliver commerce in the community.

ACTIONS TO INCLUDE

- The Community Council would support proposals to convert a current residential/community building, partially or in whole to a business enterprise that would benefit the community. The justification for this being that in providing local facilities, less reliance is placed on out of village facilities and vehicular trips to them. It would be the very definition of sustainable development.
- Careful consideration needs to be given to any commercial development in Warren Hall that would have a direct negative impact on current businesses within Higher Kinnerton – local public houses, local community store. Thought needs to be given to how these businesses can be protected and other services such as a Post Office can be restored to the village. Future loss of these facilities would have a significant negative impact on the social cohesion of Higher Kinnerton and put some of our more vulnerable residents at serious risk of social isolation.



6.0 RELEVANT POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS

During the production of this plan, many documents were viewed and discussed by the steering group. The principle documents reviewed to bring us to the final version of this plan are as follows:

- Well Being and Future Generations Wales Act 2014
- Flintshire County Council emerging Local Development Plan 2015- 2030 (Nov 2017)
- Flintshire LDP – SA scoping report
- A Green Future: our 25-year plan to improve the environment – HM Gov.
- A Green Space Framework Strategy For Flintshire Feb 2013
- The 2016 State of Nature Report (National Trust)
- WWF Cymru’s Living Planet Report 2018
- Gov. Wales The Welsh Government, Environment and Countryside
- Mold Town Plan
- Shape My Town – Planning Aid Wales
- Planning Policy Wales edition 9 :2016 (Greenbelt & Green Wedges)
- Higher Kinnerton Village Survey 2018
- An Active Travel Plan for Wales 2016 – Welsh Gov
- Flintshire Active Travel Existing Route Map
- Flintshire Local Housing Market Assessment 2014/15
- Local Democracy and Boundary Commission For Wales
- FCC Health, Community, Wellbeing & Cohesions (topic paper 9 summary)
- A Wellbeing Plan for Flintshire – April 2017
- Higher Kinnerton Census data
- Higher Kinnerton Settlement Data 2015
- Transport For New Homes - (F.I.T. 2018)

REF	PROJECT SUMMARY GRID	DELIVERY AGENCIES	TIME SCALE	POSSIBLE FUNDING LEAD
Theme 1 Environment & Open Spaces				
E1	Creation of a green barrier between neighbouring communities by:	HKCC & FCC, Community groups 3rd sector environment groups	0-15 years	FCC & HKCC. 3rd Sector. All Saints Church
	(a) Working with FCC through the LDP process			
	(b) Creating a walking route around the perimeter of the village using new and existing rights of way			
	(c) Create a walkable wildlife corridor			
	(d) Linking Higher Kinnerton into existing and planned cycle routes			
E2	(a) Increase the number of trees, hedgerows, nesting boxes to encourage wild life	FCC/HKCC All Saints Church	0-10 years	HKCC & FCC 3rd Sector organisations
	(b) Working with the church to gain access to land for an increased burial area with a wildlife zone			
	(c) Promote the extension of current allotment provision to include a community composting scheme			
Theme 2 Community & Social Cohesion				
C1	Implementing Future Generation Act & Cohesive Communities principles into Community life	HKCC	0-3 years	HKCC
	(a) The formation of community volunteer group			
	(b) An enhanced programme of annual village events			
	(c) The formation of a youth council			
	(d) Development of bennett's Lane Corner into a village community area			
C2	Assist Village Community Building committees in responding to community aspirations	HKCC Village Hall & Scout committees	0-5 years	HKCC Village Hall & Scouts 3rd Sector bodies
	(a) Formation of a committee to develop a plan for the future			
	(b) Re-instate village traditional activiies and new activities for all age groups			
C3	Social isolation affecting young and old members of the community	3rd Sector bodies Community groups 3rd sector environment groups	0-3 years	HKCC & FCC 3rd Sector organisations
	(a) Engage with FCC & other bodies to introduce a community transport system for village needs			
	(b) Explore ideas that can reduce the use and reliance of residents on own transport			
Theme 3 - Community Growth through Sensitive Development				
D1	Warren Hall. Connectivity to the community and maintaining the rural feel of Higher Kinnerton is vital with this development	FCC	0-15 years	FCC & Welsh Gov
	(a) Investment in infrastructure that would allow a community transport system that would connect Warren Hall & Higher Kinnerton			
	(b) The planting trees and hedgerows to maintain its rural aspect			
	(c) Connect the site to existing and proposed cycle paths and footpaths and contribute to the development of the community perimeter walk			
	(d) Plan for higher housing density but less area wasted on parking			
D2	Development in the community should reflect the need for mixed housing connectivity to the existing village	FCC	0-15 years	N/A
	(a) Provide car parking to accommodate sufficient parking spaces to reflect that 79% of village household now have access to two or more vehicles			
	(b) Retail element should be part of any plan so it can contribute to the lack of business premises within the community			
	(c) Provide good footpath/cycle path connection to the village centre and green open spaces within the development			
	(d) Reflect a low carbon society by using green technology in design and charging points for electric vehicles			
Theme 4 Commerce in the community				
Com 1	Develop and support any beneficial commercial opportunities within the community	Residents. Village community buildings committees.	0-15 years	Resident. Communiy Committees.
	(a) Support any resident with a commercial propasal to develop a business within the village			
	(b) Support our 2 community buildings develop any commercial opportunity with the buildings			
	(c) Work with all statutory bodies in restoring a full time post office to the village			



HIGHER KINNERTON VILLAGE PLAN 2018 - 2030

8.0 CONTACT

Higher Kinnerton Community Council is accessible to all its residents and can be contacted in several ways.

WRITE TO:

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Top row:

Sarah Conyers,
Dave Taylor,
Sean Beech,
Lois Fleming,
James Farley

Bottom Row:

Tom Gibson
Gareth Evans
Liz Corner

Not pictured:

Debbie Thomas, Bev Wilson

