

## **Thoughts on Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs)**

For those who haven't come across NDPs before, they were a government initiative of about 15 years ago and are intended to be documents which give residents the combined power to shape their own community and how it develops i.e. where new buildings go and what type. Is the infrastructure (shop, school, surgery, roads) sufficient, should more small business development be encouraged, is more green space needed, etc? Once agreed by the community and local council, NDPs carry weight when determining future developments.

Our own 2020 NDP is currently being reviewed, and now is the time for everyone to have their say on how they want the village to continue over the next years and decades. It is important that everyone voices their opinions, are heard, and that plans are therefore not foisted on us that we don't agree with.

Currently the Parish council are hoping we will all participate. Questionnaires are available on line on the Parish Council website or as hard copies at Fressingfield Stores, where they can be returned before 2<sup>nd</sup> March once completed. You will need a copy of the NDP in front of you in order to answer the questions and hard copies can be viewed at either the church, the shop, or the chapel.

Think about the next few years: can you easily get an appointment with your GP, is the area where you walk your dog still fields or will it be built on, is the shop still open, will sewage still be flooding the Low Road when it rains? All of

these things may continue as they are, or change as the village continues to grow.

Please make your voice heard.

Judy Cantrill 26.1.26