

Fosse Villages Neighbourhood Plan- Sapcote and Sharnford Primary School Joint Consultation.

The consultation with both Sapcote and Sharnwood Primary School took place on 15th November at Sharnford Primary School. Approximately 56 children from school years 5 and 6 took part. Two 45 minute sessions were run with a mixture of children from both villages being present in each session. The majority of children lived in the villages of Sharnford and Sapcote with small minority living in Stoney Stanton and two from Hinckly.

The event was based around a map of Sapcote (and Stoney Stanton) and Sharnford parishes with an enhanced map of the villages themselves. The children were sat at tables, in smaller groups of 6 to 8 which included a split of children from Sapcote and Sharnford (including the small number of children from outside of the subject areas integrated within the groups). Each table had a map of both villages to work on and discuss with the group. It was a requirement of the school that the children from both schools be integrated in both sessions to provide a social cohesion between the children, encouraging them to work together.

Sheila Scott, Ward Councillor and Chair of the Planning Committee at Blaby attended the sessions and the class teachers x 3 provided assistance.

Each session included an introduction to ‘planning’ and the purpose of the neighbourhood plan. 4 activities and group discussion which encouraged the children to listen to others and make comment.

Activity 1- 5 mins – locate their homes on the village insert maps. This provided the children an opportunity to hone in on map reading skills and find key areas which they could identified with.

Activity 2- 10 mins – In their groups list items that they liked about their respective villages. At the end of the session, as a whole group, each table was invited to share their ‘likes’ with the rest of the room. Questions were asked of the group why they thought that was a good thing to have (such as shops, parks, etc)

Activity 3- 10 mins – In their smaller groups list items that they dislike in the village – same format as activity 2

Activity 4 – 10 mins – In their smaller groups discuss and list items that they thought could be improved.

The Sapcote Children were fairly positive about the villages that they lived in. They identified a number of positive aspects, including

- The village green and Park – the green on Green Spa Drive
- Pavillion
- Little shop, post office
- Primary School
- That it was a small village
- It was quite and calm living here
- Surrounded by countryside
- Church
- Library
- Cub Shelter
- Christmas street lights

- Ashby Canal

The things they didn't like included

- The public toilets
- Traffic
- Parked cars
- Narrow pavements
- Dog fouling
- Lack of take away food premises
- No leisure centre/swimming pool
- Dirty buses/lack of buses
- No stadium (sports)
- Not enough big swings
- No skate park
- Drains at Spa Drive
- Rubbish in duck pond

The things they would like to see improved were:

- Scout hut renovated
- Road surfacing needs replacing
- More dog waste bins
- Improvements to the church building
- Extension to the school – to allow more room (music, bigger library)
- Traffic lights to aid with crossing the main road
- More play equipment/tree house
- More shops
- Wider road and pavements
- Educate drivers of protocols at mini roundabout
- 24/7 bus service
- Sports centre
- Public car park
- More houses (didn't get an opportunity to run activity 5 – locate places for housing)

The Sharnford Children were quite positive about the villages that they lived in. They identified a number of positive aspects, including

- Skate Park
- Big park
- Fosse Meadows
- Shops
- Pub and Chinese
- That everyone knows each other
- Like the brook
- Being close to the countryside
- Lots of walks
- Peaceful place
- Nice houses
- Evergreen Hall

The things they didn't like included

- Traffic/lorries
- Main road
- Narrow footpaths
- Slippery concrete at the park
- Dog fouling
- Lack of shops
- Rubbish in the brook/pollution
- Rubbish
- Poor phone signal
- Boring sometimes
- Cars annoying at night (noise)
- Church looks like it's going to fall down
- The petrol garage – too busy
- School needs improving

The things they would like to see improved were

- More shops
- Cafe and fast food takeaways
- More play equipment (particular a round-a-bout)
- A den near the Jitty
- Tree house
- Knock down the church
- Build a bypass
- Make the village more modern
- A shop that sells a wide range of things
- More things to do
- Knock the Country Man pub down and build a bigger superstore

Final note – At the end of session 2 the children were asked if they would stay in their villages when they were older all said 'no' that they would like to move away to be closer to shops and things to do!

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